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# BOMBAY

(THE GATE OF INDIA)

## A Guide to Places of Interest with Map

BY

Lieut.-Col. H. A. NEWELL, F.R.G.S.

Indian Army



Price, Rupees Two

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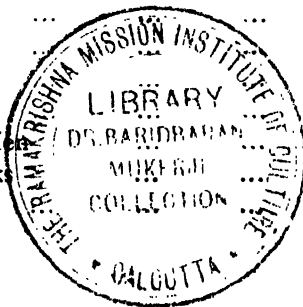
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group became fixed in place. With the lapse of time their chief claim to distinction grew to be their proximity to Gharapuri, a famous island city of ancient days. Then by a strange turn of Fortune's wheel Bombay became part of the dowry of a Western queen. From that moment the destiny of the islands was assured. Slowly but inevitably the insignificant group rose to be a world power occupying a position in the eastern hemisphere only analogous to that held in the Occident by mediæval Venice-- 'proud mistress of the Adriatic.'

Interesting and unique though Bombay unquestionably is, the very fact to which it owes its greatness, i.e. that it is the port for Europe, detracts from it in the eyes of travellers. Regarding it literally as the 'Gate of India,' they proceed to pass through as rapidly as possible. This is neither fair to themselves nor yet to Bombay. All the same I must allow that I have frequently heard those who lingered in the island city complain that by so doing they felt that they had rather wasted their time. 'If we had only known what to see and how best to set about it,' they added pathetically, 'we should possibly have enjoyed our stay very much.'

My conscience pricked me; I had published guide books to other places containing just such itineraries, but had omitted Bombay, the city in which I was born. Mindful of Sir Walter Scott's patriotic lines:

Breathes there the man with soul so dead  
Who never to himself hath said,  
'This is my own, my native land,'

I sought to make amends by adding Bombay to the list of my guide books to places of interest in India. The first edition was written in 1914, and numbered six thousand. Owing to my departure for France, it was brought out rather hurriedly. Since then newspaper critics and others have

reproached me on the score of undue brevity. No complaint could have been more welcome. It conclusively proves the increased interest taken in historical and allied subjects, within the last few years.

To be worthy the name history must work a resurrection. It must revive the dead past, and the men and women belonging thereto. In no manner can this be done so effectually as upon the very sites where the epoch making events recorded actually took place. Bombay possesses a remarkable history, and one rich in sensational incident. Placed in an exposed position on the Pirate Coast, as the western seaboard had been termed from time immemorable, it was constantly menaced by Arabs, Angria's buccaneers and other marauders. Hostile French, Dutch, Moghul, Portuguese and Maratha fleets bore down upon it in turn. At one time the whole island was in possession of the enemy with the exception of the fort. Practically at no period was it free from war, and never from war's alarms. Its proximity to the mainland rendered it equally vulnerable to capture from the East. At such crises the little handful of English traders must indeed have felt themselves between 'the devil and the deep blue sea.' Their adventures make a stirring tale. Step by step they converted their palm grown island into a great city justly regarded as the 'Gate of India,' with portals thrown wide to the commerce of the world. To Bombay, then, I humbly dedicate this little volume in the hope that its contents will enable visitors to 'read, mark, learn and inwardly digest' much that would otherwise escape their notice while passing through the 'Gate of India.'

H. A. NEWELL, LIEUT.-COL.,

*Indian Army.*



# BOMBAY

(THE GATE OF INDIA)

MOST cosmopolitan of cities, Bombay occupies a unique position in the British Empire. Literally as well as figuratively it is the Gate of India. It is not, however, to its geographical situation alone that Bombay owes its wealth and importance. The great seaport, whereby travellers and commerce enter India from the West, is actually more indebted to man than to Nature for its present prosperity.

Originally Bombay consisted of a group of seven islands spoken of as Heptanesia by Ptolemy, A.D. 150. At low tide what had been sea breaking with picturesque effect against verdant shores became a pestilential swamp out of which rose certain green clad eminences densely overgrown with palms. The isles to north and west were uninhabited excepting by monkeys and such wild animals as are common to the jungle.

Scattered over the other five were rude settlements occupied by dark-skinned aborigines of Dravidian descent known as Kolis. These earliest colonists were primitive in the extreme. They subsisted by fishing and by cultivating the Tad, or Palmyra palm, from which they distilled the juices—trades which they continue to ply in Bombay to this hour.

In turn the island group came to owe suzerainty both to Hindu and Muhammadan powers. The dawn of the sixteenth century brought yet another change of masters. On January 21, 1509, the Portuguese came to their shores, landed for wood and water and sailed away again. Soon, however, they returned and established a colony. By the treaty of Bassein, signed in 1534 on board the galleon St. Matthews, Sultan



Bahadur of Gujarat gave and bequeathed to the King of Portugal and his heirs for ever the city of Bassein, its territories, islands and seas. In this way Heptanesia passed from Muhammadan into Christian hands.

For rather more than a century Bombay remained subject to Portuguese influence. It is questionable whether the Portuguese authorities at home even dimly realized the immense possibilities of their new possessions. Apparently they over estimated the value of Goa while underrating that of Bombay.

June 23, 1661, stands out as an all important date in the annals of the island group. On that day the marriage treaty between Catherine Braganza and Charles II was signed at Whitehall in London. The mixed dowry brought by the Portuguese princess included Bombay, with all rights, profits, territories and appurtenances whatsoever thereunto belonging. Unfortunately the treaty, whereby Affonso VI ceded the island to 'the King of Great Britain and his heirs for ever,' was ambiguously worded. This led to delay in the transfer, and serious loss of life.

### ADVENT OF THE ENGLISH

On September 18, 1662, the Earl of Marlborough arrived with five hundred of the King's troops, to take over and garrison Bombay. An unpleasant surprise awaited him. The Portuguese Governor refused delivery insisting that the terms of surrender were irregular. Moreover he forbade the troops to land. Matters were in this state when the remainder of the expeditionary force appeared in October, under Sir Abraham Shipman. The Portuguese Governor continued inflexible. As the troops were suffering from their long confinement on board application was made to Oxinden, Chief of the East India Company's Factory at Surat, for

leave to disembark at that port. This, too, was refused. Oxinden feared that the Moghul Governor of the city would take umbrage were an armed force to approach. Nothing remained but to land at Anjidio, an uninhabited island south of Goa. This proved so unhealthy that three hundred, out of the five hundred soldiers intended to garrison Bombay, died within eighteen months.

Widespread indignation was felt in England when news was received of the refusal to cede Bombay. Pepys alludes to the incident in his diary: 'The Portugals have choused us, it seems, in the Island of Bombay, in the East Indies. After a great charge of our fleets being sent there with full commission from the King of Portugal to receive it, the Governor, by some pretense or other, will not deliver it to Sir Abraham Shipman sent from the King, nor yet to my Lord of Marlborough; which the King takes highly ill, and I fear our Queen will fare the worse for it.'

Marlborough returned to England and was killed in the great sea fight with the Dutch, in 1665. Meanwhile Sir Abraham Shipman waited at Anjidio. Here a fresh commission reached him in April, 1664, whereby he was empowered to take possession of Bombay. Upon this he drew up an order couched as follows: 'I, Sir Abraham Shipman, of His Majesty's Privy Council, Governor of all the Forces of his British Majesty in the Island of Bombay, in the East Indies, do constitute and ordain Humphrey Cooke as Vice-Governor and in his absence Ensign John Torne.' Shipman died at Anjidio in the following September. Cooke was left alone to treat with the Viceroy of Goa. The latter delayed negotiations until December 26, 1664, when he finally authorized Cooke to take delivery of Bombay. This the latter proceeded to do in January, 1665. First, however, he was required to sign articles so charged with hampering clauses as to

practically rob the cession of all value. Thereafter he personally took possession of the island in the King's name 'taking in his hands earth and stones, entering and walking upon its bastions, putting his hands to the walls thereof and making all other like acts, which in right were necessary, without any impediment or contradiction.'

Fryer, a surgeon in the Honourable Company's employ, visited Bombay in 1672. He writes: 'On first landing Cooke and his men found a pretty well seated, but ill-fortified house, four brass cannon being the whole defense of this island except a few chambers, or short carriageless cannon, housed in small towers in convenient places to scour the Malabar pirates. About the house, or castle was a delicate garden said to be the pleasantest in India.'

The remaining troops and ordnance were brought up from Anjidio and mustered at Bombay before Mr. Gary, one of the Surat Council.

At that date Surat was subject to the Moghul Emperor Aurangzib (1658-1707) and was the great trade depot of the west coast of India as well as the port of departure for pilgrims to Mecca. Here all the various European merchant companies had representatives and factories. Rivalry between them was keen, furthermore they were greatly hampered by duties and impositions enforced by the Moghul Governor. A jealous watch was kept upon them. In the event of their incurring the displeasure of the local authorities they were liable to forfeit their lives, in addition to their possessions.

### THE COMPANY

The Honourable East India Company was founded on December 31, 1599. On that date Queen Elizabeth granted a Royal Charter to George, Earl of Cumberland, and two hundred and fifteen Knights, Aldermen and Merchants, whereby

they were assured the exclusive right of trading in the East Indian Seas for fifteen years. At the expiration of that term it might be renewed if found profitable to the Crown and realm. The Corporation was a powerful one and included some of the wealthiest men in London. Their concession covered almost half the globe, and was bitterly opposed by the House of Commons, who were always hostile to monopolies.

In spite of their great powers the Company began modestly. For staff they were content with a secretary, a bookkeeper and a beadle. Their offices consisted of a few rooms in the house of their Governor, Sir Thomas Smythe, and were considered sufficient for the purpose during the first twenty-one years. In 1612 the system of trading in India with stock raised by subscription was introduced. Factories were established at Surat, the great trade emporium of the West Coast, and at Bantam in Java. Other commercial agencies were opened, in 1616, at Gombroon in the Persian Gulf, and at Mocha in the Arabian. Affairs prospered and original shares bore a premium of 203 per cent.

The first serious blow to the Company was dealt by Charles I. In 1635 that King granted a license to Sir William Curten and others, to trade in the East Indies, excepting at such places as the Company had established settlements. The rivalry which ensued threatened ruin to all concerned. Happily matters were arranged a year before the inauguration of the Commonwealth. In 1657 the Company were restored their old privileges by Cromwell, who further championed their cause by procuring redress from Holland for the destruction of their factory, and massacre of their employees at Amboyna. The Dutch were required to pay £85,000 compensation, in addition to £3,615 to be divided among the relatives of the deceased.

With the restoration of Charles II the Company found themselves in a somewhat embarrassing position. They sought to propitiate the King with a gift of gold plate valued at £3,210. This proved effective. On April 3, 1661, the Merry Monarch granted 'unto the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading to the East Indies for ever after the whole, entire and only trade and traffic to and from the said East Indies.' Fresh powers were accorded, under which they might despatch battleships, men and ammunition, declare war and conclude peace with any non-Christian nation, erect forts and garrison them at their various settlements which, by this date, included the Isle of St. Helena.

### ARMS OF THE COMPANY

Despite their modest beginning the Honourable Company were not averse to judicious display. One of their earliest measures was to apply for a coat of arms. This was registered at the Herald's College on February 9, 1601. The device was not only splendid, but beautiful, with its rich blue and gold colouring. In the language of heraldry it is expressed as coat azure, three ships or, all under sail, garnished with cross gules; and upon a chief or, between two rose gules, an additionment out of the royal arms of England, viz. quarterly azure gules in the first and last, and in the second and third a gold fleur-de-lys, a lion passant guarding the same. The motto under the coat of arms was 'Deo ducente nil vocat.'

The crest consisted of a plumed helmet and a sphere, or globe terrestrial, between two standards of St. George. The supporters were gold and blue sea lions, mantled gules doubled azure. The motto over the crest was 'Deus Indicat.'

The Company were very proud of their arms. They stamped them on books and ledgers, engraved them on their

plate, weapons and staffs of office, and carved them everywhere including the cabins of their ships. This practice is commented upon by Sir Thomas Roe, the British Ambassador sent by James I, at the Company's request, to treat with the Moghul Emperor Jahangir regarding special trade concessions. Roe took leave of his newly made bride and embarked, heavy hearted, in the merchantman 'Lion,' in February 1615. From shipboard he wrote to the Governor, Sir T. Smythe: 'Your own motto heartens me in every room. "He is safe kept whom God keeps."'

In 1708 the Old, or London Company amalgamated with the New, or English Company formed in 1698. The original arms were abandoned in favour of those adopted by the New Company. Another change was the substitution of the term Directors, for that of Commissioners formerly prefixed to the names of managing members. Directors held office for a year only, but might be re-elected.

## SURAT

A little prior to 1612 the Company had obtained an imperial firman from Jahangir Shah permitting them to open a factory at Surat. This was in charge of a President and Council, who were quick to perceive the possibilities of Bombay, and urge its purchase from the Portuguese.

• In January 1666 the King was requested to permit a depot to be established at Bombay. This was granted. When Charles II learnt of the humiliating terms upon which Cooke had taken over the island his indignation knew no bounds. The offending Deputy Governor was recalled and Sir Gervase Lucas appointed in his stead. Before embarking Lucas pointed out to the King that, according to Cooke's report, the fortifications of the island were not only inadequate, but in a state bordering upon ruin. He demanded four hundred

soldiers as garrison, an increase of pay for himself and eighteen months stores of every description. His request was referred to General Monk (afterwards the Duke of Albemarle) and to the King's Secretaries of State, Lord Arlington and Sir William Coventry. These cut down the proposed number of troops to sixty.

Sir Gervase Lucas assumed the duties of Governor on November 5, 1666, with Mr. Henry Gary as Deputy. Relations with Surat became increasingly strained, the Company's merchants at that place resenting the proximity of the King's representatives. Lucas died in the May following and was succeeded by Gary.

### TRANSFER TO THE COMPANY

Once in possession of Bombay Charles II found his bridal gift a costly and useless possession, and one likely to embroil him in international complications. This being the case he was willing to part with it on easy terms. On March 27, 1668, he issued letters patent, by virtue of which his new possession passed to the Governor and Company of Merchants of London trading into the East Indies. Thence forward the Merchants were to be regarded 'as the true and absolute Lords and Proprietors thereof,' holding it 'in free and common soccage,' on terms similar to those upon which the Manor of East Greenwich was leased. The annual rent of Bombay was fixed at £10. This was to be paid at the Custom House, London, on September 30. For their part the Company engaged not to interfere with Roman Catholics in the exercise of their religious duties, or sell, or part with any portion of the island to a foreign power.

This momentous Charter is inscribed on parchment in Gothic characters. The top and bottom are elaborately emblazoned. From it dates Bombay's prosperity.

## THE NEWS

The merchantman 'Constantinople' dropped anchor off Swally, the port some four miles below Surat, early in the autumn of 1668. Her Commander promptly proceeded to the English Factory. Here he notified the President and Council that Bombay had been ceded to the Company. At the good news Oxinden despatched Messrs. Goodwin, Streynsham Master (afterwards Governor of Fort Saint George, Madras) Thomas Coles and Captain Young to take possession. The four Commissioners reached Bombay late on September 21, but did not go ashore until the 23rd. They reported their reception as follows :—' At our landing we were met by Governor Gary, and other officers, who, at the head of their various military companies, were drawn up by the seaside. They received us with much respect and ceremony, and so accompanied us into the Fort. There Governor Gary caused all the soldiers to make their approach towards us in military order, first being commanded by the Chief Officer to lay down their arms, and to march towards us without them.' After this the King's Privy Seal was publicly read. Following it the Company's Commission was proclaimed. The garrison then resumed their arms in the name of the Company. They were King's soldiers no longer.

\* The Portuguese, and other inhabitants next presented addresses of welcome, and petitions for redress of alleged grievances, notably the forcible appropriation of oats, or cocoanut plantations, and paddy fields.

At first Bombay was under Surat, the President of which place administered the Company's island through a Deputy Governor. In 1687 Bombay became the head-quarters of the Western Presidency. It was declared subject to Bengal in



1773, as the result of an act of Parliament passed in October of that year. The House of Commons had appointed a select committee, in February 1772, to enquire into the nature, state and condition of the East India Company. A secret committee was deputed to inspect the accounts. This was the first real interference of national authority in the administration of British India. At the time the local Government of Bengal was vested in a Governor and Council of twelve, or more members, some of whom resided at outstations. The Act of 1773 limited the number of counsellors to four, all of whom were required to live in the Presidency. The Governor and Council thus constituted were given full civil and military authority over Fort William, and the territories and revenues of Bengal, Behar and Orissa. Madras and Bombay were declared subject to them. Warren Hastings was the first Governor-General. He was nominated for five years.

## TOWN PLANNING

No sooner had the Company been given possession of Bombay than they ordered an armed vessel to be stationed in the harbour as guardship. The Court of Directors wrote instructions for laying out a town. To provide for weavers from Cheul they desired a street should be made, and houses built along it from the castle to the Custom House, which stood to north-west of the present mint, and was commonly known as East India House. Insufficiency of accommodation for Europeans led to the erection of two storeyed residences fronting the sea. The Court of Directors considered that adequate lodging existed in the hospital, and other places for the Company's servants, and ordered two large stone warehouses, roofed with tile, to be put in hand instead.

Oxinden died in 1669 and was succeeded by Aungier. The

new President of the Surat factory was an unusually capable and foreseeing man. He urged the transfer of power from Surat to Bombay, the construction of a mole and docks, the erection of a fortified wall around the proposed town, and 'a fair common house to serve as Courts of Justice, granary, prison, and ammunition storage.' Further more he emphasized the need for half a dozen galleys, or brigantines for port defence, and convoy duty. He reduced the 'military establishment from two companies to one, and ordered all soldiers to wear red serge in summer, and red cloth in winter, 'for the greater decency of the military order.' Christians were forbidden to wear any material not of English manufacture, on pain of a fine. Intoxicants were taxed. Englishmen, who married in Bombay, bound themselves thereby to remain in the island for seven years at least. Aungier directed a road to be made and houses built 'from Judge Nicholl's to the waterside.'

### **DROWNED LANDS**

In March 1677 the residents of Bombay petitioned the Court of Commissioners to send out a 'clock and a great bell, as it would be a very grateful thing to the whole city.' Unfortunately progress was hampered by terrible mortality from disease. Accordingly, in April 1684, the Company wrote urging the reclaiming of 'drowned lands' from the sea, as a sanitary measure. The territory thus gained was to be converted into salt pans, similar to these customary in Portugal and France. A good description of Bombay, in 1714, comes from the pen of the Rev. Cobbe, to whom the city owes its Cathedral. 'The island is about eight miles long and twenty in circumference. It is much healthier than heretofore, or than is usually reported; partly, perhaps, owing to the prohibiting

of buckshaw, or smaller fish, with which they used to dung their ground and trees ; partly to the stopping repair of several sea breaches, through which a third part of the island was formerly overflowed. The soil is poor and barren, a sandy rock yielding little besides rice, cocoanuts and a few greens. Still the neighbouring coasts plentifully supply us with provisions. Shiraz wine, our chief liquor, we have from Persia. Arrack comes from Goa or Batavia, and extraordinary good wheat from Surat, from which we make the best bread in India. We have three good forts here, and a strong built and fortified castle. Including English the inhabitants are reckoned about 16,000. They are of different languages and religions.'

The town wall was completed on Christmas Day, 1716. It had eight bastions and enclosed an area of about 739,000 square yards crowded with irregular streets, the Company's warehouses, small residences and gardens. Glass was scarce hence window panes were made from the opalescent lining of oyster shells.

In due course the islands became linked together by causeways, land was reclaimed from the sea, breaches were filled, docks were built, and finally a railway re-united Bombay with the mainland after a severance of unknown centuries. The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 still further increased the city's importance as a great commercial centre. Prior to that date ships had come from Europe by way of the Cape. So in little more than three centuries the insignificant island group named Heptanesia by Ptolemy rose to be a world power.

From being no man's land, Bombay came to be every man's land ; the famous port wherein craft flying the flags of all nations ride safely at anchor ; the city peopled by the most cosmopolitan population on earth.

## CITY WARDS

For municipal purposes Bombay is divided into seven wards, respectively named after the letters of the alphabet—

A. Ward heads the list, and is also known as Fort and Harbour ward. To south, east and west it is bounded by the sea. On the north its limit is a line running from the harbour along the north wharf, down the south side of Carnac Road, and First Marine Street to Back Bay.

B. or Mandvi Ward includes Mandvi, Chackla, Umarkhardi and Dongri Sections.

C. Ward comprises Bhuleswar, Dhobi Talao, Market, Fanaswady, Khara Talao and Kumbharwada Sections.

D. Ward consists of Girgaon, Khotwadi, Chowpati, Walkeshwar and Mahalakshmi Sections.

E. Ward includes Byculla, Mazgaon, Tarwari, First Nagpada, Second Nagpada Kamalipura and Tardeo Sections.

F. Ward encloses Parel, Sewri and Sion Sections.

G. Ward contains Mahim and Worli.

As far back as 1670 Bombay was divided into two distinct precincts for judicial purposes. The first comprised Mazgaon and Girgaon, the second Mahim and Parel, Sion, Worli and all Pakhadis, or hamlets appertaining thereto. In each precinct five justices were appointed to try petty causes. Those belonging to the first assembled in Bombay Custom House at 8 a.m. on Friday. The others met at the same hour on Wednesday in the Mahim Custom House. A constable was appointed to each Parish. For insignia of office he carried a silver tipped staff engraved with the Company's arms.

Important cases and appeals came up before the Governor and Council, who assembled weekly in the Court House from 8 to 11 a.m. on Tuesdays, and again from 1 to 3 p.m. in the Fort,

for the same purpose. Trial was by jury. Mixed juries of English and Portuguese were empanelled in cases of dispute between litigants of the two nationalities. Punishments were drastic. For theft offenders were condemned to work in chain gangs on the Island of Bombay prior to transport to St. Helena. Petty treason, and conniving at the death of a husband were punished with burning at the stake.

In 1675 a Judge was appointed at a salary of £150 a year. On this important occasion the President wrote from Surat : ' Let the judge know from us that we expect he maintain the gravity, integrity and authority of his office, and that he doth not bring disrepute on the city of Bombay by lightness, partiality, self-seeking and countenancing common barristers, in which sort of vermin they say Bombay is very unhappy '. Despite this injunction Judge Nicholl was suspended at the end of two years, juries refusing to serve with him. Legal matters temporarily reverted to their former somewhat happy go lucky methods.

## FIRST IMPRESSIONS

Naturally the first impressions of a new arrival are too mixed to allow of definite analysis. He is dimly conscious of fine buildings in a style at once familiar and yet strange.

Indo-Saracenic is merely an architectural term to him and conveys little or no meaning. As he drives through streets crowded with men of every colour, dress and country, it gradually dawns upon him that his eyes are taking in rather more than his mind is capable of digesting. In dream fashion he notes a group of Parsi ladies, and vaguely admires the graceful way each drapes her sari, an article of national attire every whit as distinctive as the far-famed mantilla of Spain. A little in the rear walks a Parsi gentleman wearing the tall, shiny black mitre starred with yellow, which constitutes the

characteristic head-dress of his people or else a small round closely fitting hat of hard grey felt. Close upon his heels come two Hindu women, their arms loaded with bracelets, while a mass of heavy anklets weigh down their small, shapely feet. A cluster of nose-rings in the left nostril advertise their married state. Both wear skirts and gaily coloured tchulis, a species of short jacket which protects the bust while leaving the waist and arms bare.

Next, the stranger is conscious of a curious apparition. Metaphorically rubbing his eyes, he stares in astonishment at a muffled figure enveloped from top to toe in what looks rather like a white dust sheet, or huge sack gathered in so as to fit the head. Where the eyes should be he perceives a small window-like aperture filled in with net. This, he realizes, is a purdah lady, compelled by Muhammadan law to conceal every trace of face or figure from any other man than her husband. The new comer glances after the retreating form with mild curiosity. Is she stout or thin, young or old, fair or the reverse? The all-enveloping purdah keeps her secret well, and so she passes out of sight and out of mind.

The vehicles thronging the centre of the street are no less interesting and bewildering than the pedestrians who pass along at either side. Electric trams, motor cars, victorias, and lumbering bullock carts mingle indiscriminately. These last bring the fact vividly home to the traveller that although he finds himself in a city of stately buildings, planned on European lines with Indian sculpture for trimming, he is none the less in the Orient. He becomes conscious of a strong undercurrent that is not Western. Borne by it he leaves the Fort, an area which corresponds with what is termed the City in London, and contains the principal banks and big business establishments of Bombay. Ere long he finds himself in the bazaar and knows that he is indeed in India.

Narrow and tortuous, the labyrinth of streets lead between an endless series of small shops filled with curious and unaccustomed wares. Their arrangement may leave something to be desired, viewed from a methodical point. It is pre-eminently satisfactory when measured by the standard of the purely picturesque.

Local colour is rendered more effective by an atmosphere in which the fragrant odour of sandalwood and spices mingles with the heavier perfumes of musk and a thousand other scents and smells impossible to classify. Gradually a subtle and slightly acrid odour dominates all the rest. It steals in faint opalescent clouds from the hookahs of the merchants who sit cross-legged before their wares, smoking and waiting.

In the bazaar the Westerner has caught a brief glimpse of one side of Indian character. Should he desire to carry the experience further, and penetrate more deeply into the mysteries of this mysterious land, he has but to bend his steps in the direction of Walkeshwar Tank, near neighbour to Shri Gundi, the holy cleft on the seashore at Malabar Point. The sanctity of the spot dates back to prehistoric times. It was held in reverence by the aborigines of the islands, and has been visited by crowds of Hindu pilgrims from the earliest known ages. In close proximity to the hallowed spot cluster temples, shrines and sacred wells fully as characteristic and curious as any to be found further afield at Benares or elsewhere.

### ORIGIN OF CITY'S NAME

For a long time etymologists differed as to the origin of Bombay. Some inclined to the belief that it was merely a nickname given to the place by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century. In support of this they quoted an anecdote to the effect that upon entering the harbour, Dom Francesco de

Almeda, Viceroy of Goa, was heard to exclaim 'Bom Bahia!' or 'Good Bay,' hence the name. The correct derivation is now generally allowed to be from the tutelary deity of the islands. This view is based upon old records, which allude to the goddess as Mamba Devi, or Maha Amba, patron deity of the Kolis, otherwise known as Siva's terrible consort Bhāwani, dread goddess of the once powerful secret society of Thugs. Her temple stood on the central island of the group which, in course of time, grew to be called Mambaim. This gradually changed into Bombay, and spreading to the other six islands ultimately affixed itself to the entire province.

The original shrine occupied the site now covered by the Victoria Terminus. Close to it was the Phansi Talao, or Gibbet Pond, so called from the gallows removed thence to the vicinity of Umarkhadi Jail in 1805. Prior to that the sanctuary of the goddess had been demolished about 1760, when it, and, neighbouring buildings were sacrificed to military considerations. Its erection is believed to date from the fourteenth century, when Mubarak Shah, better known as Kutb-ud-Din (1317-1320) extended his power from Daulatabad, in the Deccan, to the west coast, including Salsette and Bombay. The Muhammadan conquerors wrecked and looted Hindu shrines, and inaugurated a general rule of terror. The temple of the goddess is supposed to have been built immediately after Mubarak's withdrawal. Of the presiding deity it is told that she was evoked by Brahma, Vishnu and Siva, to rid the earth of a powerful demon named Mumba. No doubt this is an allegorical form of Mubarak Shah, the Moslem conqueror. For seven days the goddess fought the demon. On the eighth she dealt him a mortal thrust. With his dying breath the fiend implored her to adopt his name of Mumba. She is described as a radiant eight-armed goddess.



A second temple in her honour was built by a Sonari styled Pandrang Shivaji. Its present site is the south-west corner of the Mumbadevi Tank, practically in the heart of the city. Langlés, the French traveller, described it, early in the nineteenth century, as the largest Hindu shrine in the island. He speaks of 'Mombay Devi' as patron deity of Bombay, and ~~says that~~ her sanctuary stood in Black Town, so designated to distinguish the Indian from the European quarter. He further gives a picture of the temple, a square edifice of cut stone blocks surmounted by a curiously shaped dome composed of a number of umbrella-like ornaments, each provided with a gilt spire. Such was the main building. It was entered by a square stone vestibule having outer doors to north, south and west, above each of which a god sat looking down from the dome crowned roof.

Few early writers agree as to the spelling of Bombay, which figures as Mambai, Mombayn, Bombaim, Mombi and the Sanskrit Maha Maiya, the Great Glamour. As early as 1626 John Vian spelt it Bombay, and it so appears upon a rupee struck by the English in 1667.

### ALL SORTS AND CONDITIONS OF MEN

Bombay can justly claim the most international population of any city in the world. The islands have been colonized by men of as widely differing creeds, races and sympathies as have ever come together since the great dispersal at the Tower of Babel, when the members of the human family were scattered in various directions to work out their several destinies.

The reason for the cosmopolitan nature of its inhabitants lies in the peculiar conditions under which the city has developed, and the policy pursued by its real founders, the Hon. India Company.

When, in 1665, Humphrey Cooke 'took in his hand earth and stones' and walked upon the bastions of Bombay Castle, in sign of possession by the English king, the place numbered 10,000 inhabitants all told. These were roughly classed under seven headings. First on the list came the Portuguese settlers, some eleven families in all, who ~~divided the land~~ between them in their character of feudal over-lords. Next came the Topasses or Indo-Portuguese. Thirdly, there were the native Christians of pure Asiatic descent, occasionally confounded with the former on account of their religion being the same. Fourthly, came the humble cultivators, chiefly residing at Sion and Parel, and fifthly the Frasses. These last were the ancestors of our present sweeper caste. Sixthly, there were the Kolis, the aboriginal fisher folk who made their home in the isles long before Ptolemy named the group Heptanesia. Seventh, and last on the list, were the hereditary tappers of palm trees known as Bhandaris. To this category came to be added the English, and those Scottish, Irish and Welsh who accompanied them on their venture.

No sooner had the islands passed to the India Company than the merchants commenced doing everything in their power to attract settlers of a better sort. Religious tolerance was accordingly promised to all, and protection in the event of outside attack. These assurances, backed by the reputation for solidity already gained by the Company at Surat, the favour enjoyed by them at the Moghul Court, and the position of the islands, which were far enough from the mainland to insure a certain degree of immunity from hostile surprise and yet sufficiently near for commercial purposes, all combined to quickly bring men of substance and repute to Bombay. Among early comers were certain rich traders of the Bania community. Brahmans flocked to the neighbourhood of the Sand God Walkeshwar, there to dwell secure

from Muhammadan persecution. Mussulmans, in like manner, sought the islands hallowed by the tomb of their saint at Mahim. Armenians and Jews, Jains, Buddhists, Arab horse dealers, merchants from far up the Persian Gulf, Mullahs from Arabia and dealers from Egypt, penniless adventurers and men of substance, all made their way to what promised sanctuary. Among the many strange people who accepted the Company's offer of hospitality none was more welcome than the Parsi and none has become so completely identified with the fortunes of the city.

Driven from Persia by fierce religious persecution, subsequent on that country's conquest by the Muhammadans, those adherents of the ancient Zoroastrian faith who refused to confirm to Islamism migrated to India. There they found a harbour of refuge in Gujarat, where they resided for several centuries. Later on they took advantage of the Company's invitation to settle in Bombay. They found the soil so congenial that it has literally become the adopted country of the Parsis. Mrs. Postans, who was in Bombay in 1838, pays them the following tribute:—'One of the principal boasts of Bombay is its docks and dock yards. They are capacious, built of fine hard stone and are the work of Parsi artisans, many of whom, from their talents and industry, have risen from common labourers to be wealthy shipbuilders.' Further on she says:

'The Jews are more numerous, and of a higher degree of respectability in Bombay than in any other part of India. They make good soldiers and are found in considerable numbers in the ranks of the native army. There are Armenians also, but not nearly so many as are established in Calcutta.'

During the eighteenth century Madagascar slaves were employed in the dockyards and military works. According

to Forbes, Parsis and Muhammadans acted as upper house servants. More menial duties were discharged by Malabars. In the latter half of the century a number of German artificers were imported in connection with the new fortifications. By 1800 some six or eight families of Jains had settled in the quarter later known as Dongri Street. They prospered to such an extent that they soon owned five temples in Bhendy Bazaar alone.

Langlés, the French traveller whose famous work on India was published in Paris in 1820, also alludes to the mixed character of the inhabitants. He says: 'The island of Bombay is three leagues in length and seven in circumference. It forms a harbour and is well populated although the water supply is bad. When it passed to Charles II it numbered 10,000 inhabitants. By 1764 this figure had increased to 76,000. It now stands at 200,000. Hindus form three quarters of the population. There are 8,000 Guebres or Parsis, as many Mussalmans, and some 4,000 Jews. In addition there are many Armenians and Portuguese. Bombay is the mart for Persia, and also of Arabia and the entire west coast of India. The Parsis lead industrially, although certain rich Portuguese, Armenians and Hindus likewise settled here.'

Such in brief is the tale of how the island city came to be peopled by men of widely-different sympathies, nationalities and creeds.

### CLIMATE AND GENERAL REMARKS

What is officially known as the cold weather commences in November and continues until the end of March. While it lasts India, when normal conditions prevail, becomes the happy hunting ground of tourists, with the result that thousands of pleasure seekers pass through Bombay. Just what to wear is a problem of much importance to those ignorant of the

climate and general conditions. During the day time light clothing and sun helmets are worn. As evening approaches the thermometer drops to an appreciable extent and it becomes necessary to don warmer garments.

The hot weather starts in April. No sooner has it begun than there is a general exodus of women and children to the hills.

The monsoon usually breaks about the second week in June, and continues up to the end of September. This is the great Poona season, and Bombay society migrates thither to avoid the worst of the rains.

In Bombay the correct calling hours are between 12 noon and 2 p.m., or else from 4 to 5 in the afternoon.

Chota-hazari is a moveable feast. As it merely consists of tea and buttered toast partaken of in one's own rooms, it can be ordered as convenience dictates. Breakfast is usually at nine o'clock, tiffin, or lunch, at 2 p.m., and khana or dinner, at 8 p.m.

Bombay is a great shopping centre. There is practically no article, however curious or rare, but can be procured in one of its many shops. Specialities of the place are carved black wood and silver Cutch work. The principal European establishments are situated within the Fort. They are to be found in Hornby Road, Rampart Row, Church Gate Street, Apollo Street and Meadows Street.

The Cloth Bazaar lies beyond Crawford Market at the entrance to the native town. There bargains are frequently to be picked up by the wary. Some thousands of gold and silver smiths are scattered throughout the city. Their wares are of the most tempting description. Silver jewellery is usually sold at a rupee the tola—a tola weighs exactly one rupee. The favourite time for shopping is from 4 to 6.30 p.m.

At five o'clock every afternoon all the world and his wife rouse themselves from their siesta to emerge forth in carriage, or on foot to enjoy the cool of the evening. Crowds congregate in the neighbourhood of the bandstand and at Apollo Bunder from the Yacht Club onwards. The favourite drive is along Queen's Road. Polo, cricket and football are in progress on the grassy maidans known as the Oval and Cooperage, the foreground of blue sea enhancing the charm of a scene already strikingly bright and animated.

### THINGS NECESSARY TO KNOW

1. Travellers making a short stay in Bombay should lose no time in writing for passes to the Towers of Silence. Application must be made to the Secretary, Parsi Panchayat, 209, Hornby Row, Fort. Admission to view the towers is from 7.30 a.m. to 9 a.m., and again from 2.30 until 5 p.m. No fee is charged. Cameras may not be taken inside the sacred enclosure and smoking is forbidden.

2. Orders to view the Mint are issued by the Mint Master, an officer of the Royal Engineers.

3. Tickets to visit Prong Light House, Colaba, are obtainable from the Port Officer.

4. The Bombay Branch of the Royal Asiatic Society is situated in the Town Hall, Elphinstone Circle. The library is open from 10.30 a.m. to 7 p.m. To enter, a member's introduction is necessary.

5. The Victoria and Albert Museum is closed on Wednesdays. ~~On other days it is open from 7.30 to 10.30 a.m.,~~ and from 1.30 to 5 p.m. between October 1 to January 31. From February 1 until September 30 the hours of admittance are from 7 a.m. until 10.30 a.m., and again in the afternoon from 1.30 until 5.

## ITINERARY

### FIRST-DAY—MORNING

Drive through the Fort along Rampart Row to the end of Hornby Road. Visit Crawford Market. Turn west into Carnac Road and continue through Cruikshank's Road. Note the Municipal Buildings, Victoria Terminus and General Post Office. Proceed to the Town Hall and on through Elphinstone Circle to St. Thomas' Cathedral. Drive through Church Gate Street into Mayo Road. Visit the Rajabai Clock Tower and Library. Observe the High Courts, University Buildings and Secretariat.

### THE FORT

The area known as the Fort corresponds with what is termed the City in London. It was originally the English town of Bombay. As such it was surrounded by a fortified wall and a moat. The three entrances were respectively termed the Bazaar Gate, Church Gate and Apollo Gate. At each a military guard was posted. Fear of hostile attack led to greater precautions being taken in 1742. At that date Bazaar Gate was in charge of a sergeant and a few privates. This force was accordingly increased to thirty privates, two corporals and an ensign. An order was issued for a big bell. It was to ring for fifteen minutes before sunset, when those inhabiting the town were to repair to their homes, while such as lived outside the walls were to hasten thither. Similar rules governed the Apollo and Church Gates which, pending the arrival of their respective bells, were required to announce

closing time by beat of drum. Servants belonging to the Company's employees were permitted to pass the Bazaar gate as late as 9.30 p.m. Ships' officers and others, whose vessels rode at anchor in Moody Bay, were obliged to repair on board before the gates shut. No strangers were allowed to lodge in the town. An order was passed prohibiting the building of any house unless the plan had previously been sanctioned by the Company's Engineer.

### SPECIAL TAX

A special tax was levied to defray the cost of erecting the city wall. Despite this the work languished owing to lack of funds and insufficient labour. Finally it was pronounced complete on Christmas Day 1716. Twenty years later a moat was dug and finished by 1743, the expenditure upon which totalled the large sum of rupees two lakhs fifty thousand. Commenting upon the defences in 1750 Groese write ;—' The town wall ought to have included Dongri as that hill commanded both the town and Castle. The curtain of the wall between the bastions was very frail. A ditch had to be made and flooded.'

In 1753 Jacques de Funck was appointed Captain of the Bombay Artillery and Chief Engineer to the Presidency. His report described the town as an enclosed area of about 739,000 square yards crowded with irregular streets, small houses and gardens. Here, too, were the Honourable Company's public buildings, magazines and warehouses. On the land side the fortifications consisted of 'seven polygons, irregular and constructed to different bastions namely the Marlborough, Stanhope, Church, Princes and Mandvi bastions, and two demi-bastions, the Moors and Banian, and the half bastion known as the Royal. All these bastions are united by single walls, or curtains. Three stone bridges cross the moat



to north, south and west, opposite to where are three gates, the Bazaar Gate, Church Gate and Apollo Gate. Seaward is the Castle, to right of which stretch walls and detached bastions. New Mandvi Battery is opposite the Company's Custom House. The two gun battery is on a high wall joined to the New and Old Mandvi Bastions. Outside it is Dongri Hill bearing north 334 yards. The Hill rises close by the water side, opposite the harbour and is  $49\frac{1}{2}$  half feet high. It is fortified with a tower. The town of Bombay is surrounded, on the land side, by a ditch, with a great number of houses, pagodas, streets, gardens, hedges and trees affording excellent cover to an enemy.' [502]

The report proceeded to condemn the existing fortifications as weak and inadequate. The curtain was only six feet thick excepting at the bastions, where it was double that measurement. The bridges, connecting with the three gates, required to be converted into drawbridges and the wall increased to a thickness of 18 feet.

Constant fear of a French attack led the Court of Directors to sanction de Funck's suggested improvements. Six hundred and forty-eight coolies were collected and set to work under supervision of the Artillery. Apparently little real progress had been effected when Major Mace succeeded de Funck as Chief Engineer in 1757. He found the utmost confusion prevailing. By his advice his predecessor's scheme was abandoned in favour of a new line of defences from sea to sea, namely from Dongri to Back Bay.

A wide space was cleared about the town wall. This led to the Portuguese Church, outside the Bazaar Gate, being demolished. One thousand eight hundred coolies, women included, were constantly busy upon the fortifications. At one time it was proposed to raze Dongri Hill, and at another to convert it into a strongly defended post. The latter

proposition was subsequently adopted and Fort George constructed thereon.

In November 1767 a road was begun from Church Gate to Black Town, as the Indian quarter was designated. A side street, likewise 40 feet wide, branched from it to Bazaar Gate. A third struck across to the English burial ground. As a result of all these improvements Colonel Campbell, Chief Engineer of Bengal, pronounced Bombay capable of resisting 'a tolerable siege' in 1768.

Meantime all the drainage of the city had been emptying itself into the ditch with lamentable results so far as the public health was concerned. In 1777 it was proposed to make sewers, which should discharge into the sea. Cleaning the moat proved a most difficult process and one that entailed an annual expenditure of Rs. 6,000. In 1780 twelve flat bottomed boats were constructed for the purpose. A year earlier twenty-five artificers had been brought out from Germany to help strengthen the fortifications.

Most of the English resided in single storeyed houses built around the Green, an open grass planted space now known as Elphinstone Circle. The majority were of stone and were coated with whitewash. Oyster shells took the place of glass in the windows, and the floors were of chunam or shell lime. Timber was obtained from Maratha territory. Indian merchants and others preferred their own quarter, where Groese depicts their habitations as ill built and incommodious, with badly planned rooms and small windows.

### DRASTIC MEASURES

In 1787 the roads were in such a poor condition that pedestrians were up to their knees in mud during the rains. Accordingly orders were issued for streets to be constructed of shingle and sandstone rubbish. Prior to that the Court of

Directors had commanded the Esplanade to be cleared of all buildings, and vegetation for a distance of a 1,000 yards from the fortifications. The high sand bank, at Back Bay, was also to be levelled. This necessitated the removal of the English burial ground from the site sanctioned, upon the abandonment of the cemetery at Mendhams' Point, in 1760. At that date a plot was allotted for the purpose outside Church Gate. It was enclosed by a dwarf wall 18 inches high. No monument was to rise more than a foot above ground, as otherwise it might afford cover to an enemy.

Early in 1771 a pest of rats induced the Clerk of the Peace to offer a reward of a pice, for each rodent produced in front of the 'Sitting Justice.' Persons were forbidden to gallop their horses on the Green, or about the streets. As a matter of fact horses were very scarce. True, the Governor drove in a coach and four, but the Admiral of the Fleet was provided with no better conveyance than a waggon and a pair of oxen. In April 1784 a bye-law laid down that wheeled conveyances might use the Bazaar Gate only. An exception was made in favour of 'hackeries of Europeans,' scavengers carts and those employed in connection with the troops on Old Woman's Island. These might pass through the other two entrances. A fine of Rs. 100 was imposed upon any non-European guilty of driving horses or mules in a wheeled conveyance. None below the rank of Vakil, unless a stranger of distinction, might be carried in a chair, or palanquin within the city walls. Simultaneously bells were abolished on cattle, as creating too great a din.

### PASSAGES TO ENGLAND

In 1775 regular ferry communication was established with Salsette and in the following year with Thana. A fixed

tariff of charges was drawn up. The prices of passages to England were similarly determined in 1776.

	£
A General Officer paid ... ..	200
Member of Council, or Colonel ... ..	150
Lieut.-Colonel ... ..	120
Merchants and Majors ... ..	100
Factors and Captains ... ..	80
Writers, Lieutenants, Ensigns and Spiusters ...	70
Cadets ... ..	50

Married ladies paid the same rates as their husbands.

### PATROL

Much of the guard was done by forced trained bands and by militia. In order to be exempted from this obligation the Vereadores voluntarily agreed to pay Xeraphins 15,000 yearly. As early as 1686 a guard house existed at Sewri, to which 'Mr. John Wyat and two Topasses' (Indo-Portuguese) were ordered for police duty. All three gates were treated as military posts. In addition the island was nightly patrolled by three companies. Each consisted of four officers and thirty-three men. The first was stationed at Washerman's Tank, or Dhobi Talao, the second at 'Major Mace's house', and the third at Mumbadevi Tank. From dark until gunfire in the morning they were required to pass from post to post. After this manner a constant watch was kept between Dongri and Back Bay. Mr. James Tod was appointed Lieutenant of police in 1779, at Rs. 4 per diem. The Court of Directors took exception to this multiplying of offices and ordered all money paid to the Lieutenant to be refunded. Upon this the obnoxious title was changed to that of Deputy of Police and his pay made a charge upon the taxes.

## GREAT FIRE

By the close of the eighteenth century the area within the city ramparts had become unduly congested. From being single storeyed the houses had shot up eight and even more floors. The roads were narrow, irregular and overhung by balconies. The ditch continued a menace to health. This being the case the great fire of 1803 proved a blessing in disguise. It broke out early in the day on February 17, in the bazaar. A high south-easterly wind fanned the flames driving them from opposite the Cumberland Ravelin to King's Barracks. Grave fears were entertained for the Arsenal. Fortunately the wind veered towards midnight and gradually abated, but not until four hundred and seventy houses had been burnt. The damage was assessed at fifty lakhs of rupees. A Town Committee was formed in the following March to determine how best to deal with the situation. As a result mercantile houses and many others were ordered to be rebuilt outside. Subsequently the insalubrious ditch was filled in by Mountstuart Elphinstone, (1817-27) whose governorship was memorable for numerous reforms. The town wall continued until 1865 when it was levelled with the exception of a brief stretch that stood until 1883. Part of its site is commemorated, in name at least, by Rampart Row.

## APOLLO STREET

Beginning at the dockyard Custom House Street runs into Apollo Street so called from the famous gateway of that name, shown in eighteenth century pictures as a low plain structure solidly built of cut stone blocks and pierced by a central arch for wheeled traffic, flanked by two small side openings for

pedestrians. The road passes the Ice House, a curious domed building of gloomy aspect rather suggestive of a Muhamniadan tomb. Adjoining it is the Great Western Hotel known as Admiralty House in the latter part of the eighteenth century. Prior to that whenever an Admiral was stationed in Bombay, quarters were assigned him in Tank House built by Sir J. Wyborne, (1686-90) for his own use as Governor. It took its name from the round pond to the north of the Town Hall. Apparently it occupied a fair amount of space its boundaries being described as 'to east, the road to the shipping, to south the Honourable Company's Bandar, or pier, to west the Green and to north the new smiths shops.' Admiral Stevens died here in May 1761 and was succeeded by Admiral Cornish. The latter promptly applied for another residence. He wrote: 'It affects my health and being near the tank is so full of vermin as to render it hardly habitable. I desire that a house may be procured more favourable to my position as a commanding officer.' He goes on to urge the desirability of Mr. Charles Whitehill's mansion 'as, from its connection with the dock-yard, and the view it affords of the harbour, its situation is very well calculated for a commanding officer's residence.' This was accordingly rented at Rs. 350 a month. It occupied the site in the north-west corner of Elphinstone Circle subsequently covered by Kemp's Buildings and the offices of the B.B. and C.I. Railway Company. In 1782 a house belonging to Governor Hornby (1771-84) was rented for the Admiral on a ten years lease at Rs. 2,000 per mensem. It also served as Court House and Record Office. Six years later the Court was turned out to provide accommodation for the officers of the 71st Regiment (Highland Light Infantry). In course of time the building became the present Great Western Hotel.

### ROYAL ALFRED SAILOR'S HOME

At the corner of Apollo Bandar Road rises a handsome Gothic building characterized by a carved figure of Neptune, a tower and a flagstaff. This is the Royal Alfred Sailors' Home, named after H.R.H. the Duke of Edinburgh, by whom the foundation stone was laid in March 1870. Accommodation is provided for three hundred and sixty seamen. The Home cost nearly four lakhs of rupees. More than half the amount was given by H. H. Khanderao, Gaekwar of Baroda.

### PRINCE OF WALES' MUSEUM

Close by is the magnificent Prince of Wales Museum, dome crowned and stately. The place of honour in the grounds is occupied by a statue of the King-Emperor George V, who, on November 11, 1905, laid the foundation stone of Bombay's grand new Ajibkhana, or House of Wonders. Shortly after the outbreak of War, in 1914, the building was converted into a military hospital. Since the conclusion of peace it has been temporarily utilized as an office for military records.

A relic of old Bombay survives in the Custom House adjoining the dockyard. Originally a Portuguese barracks, it was handed over to the English when the island was transferred to Charles II in 1665.

### CRAWFORD MARKET

Named after the Municipal Commissioner of Bombay responsible for its erection, the Arthur Crawford Market claims to be the handsomest building of its kind in India. It was commenced in 1865 and finished four years later at a total cost of Rs. 19,49,700. The site covered is triangular and is bounded

by the Carnac, Pultan, and Esplanade Roads. It is divided into three sections. That on the east is reserved for the sale of beef and mutton. To south are the godowns, purveying shops and fowl rooms, while the market for fruit and vegetables is situated to north-west in a splendid hall conspicuous for three fine entrances, an upper storey, and a clock tower of imposing appearance. Coarse Coorla rubble supplies the masonry with red sandstone from Bassein by way of decorative relief.

Marketing hours extend from 3.45 a.m. until 10 p.m. The busiest and most interesting times are between six and nine in the morning and from four to half past seven at night.

To unaccustomed eyes the great hall with its rows of stalls presents a vivid and memorable scene, and one that lingers in the mind long after many others have been forgotten. Attention is divided between the picturesque throng of purchasers and the piles of strange fruits and vegetables brought by rail and boat from far-away gardens. Bananas are present in immense quantities. They range from the large red plantain down to the diminutive yellow variety, barely a finger long, generally accounted the most delectable of its kind. Then there are melons, pumpkins, pummeloes—a species of grape fruit—Nagpur oranges, grapes, pistaccio and cocoanuts, walnuts from Kashmir, peaches from Quetta and Afghanistan, apples, huge jack fruit, figs, chikoos, custard apples, pines, dates from Muscat, and last, though by no means least, mangoes from Bombay, universally allowed to be the best mangoes in the world.

A curious and typically Indian taste is well catered for in the Crawford Market, where a lively trade is carried on in pan—the leaf of an aromatic vine—and betel or areca nut. The pan is sprinkled with lime juice and wrapped round the betel, held to possess digestive virtues of a high order. Those



in the habit of chewing it munch away drowsily for hours, with the result that their lips and teeth are stained a curious reddish brown.

While on the subject of foodstuffs it is appropriate to mention that Bombay is famous for fish as well as for fruit. The pomfret caught in its waters is considered worthy of an epicure, while pummaloe or Bombay duck is known to devotees of curry the world over.

### MUNICIPAL OFFICES

The architect responsible for the design of the Municipal Offices decided upon an adaptation of early Gothic as most in harmony with an exterior decoration introducing Indian carving of an involved and beautiful kind, such as birds, animals and foliage, fancifully executed in high relief. The foundation stone was laid in 1884 by Lord Ripon, then Viceroy of India, and the work was completed nine years later at a cost of 13 lakhs of rupees. One of the most conspicuous features of the building is a tower rising 235 feet from the ground. Another is a colossal figure symbolizing *Urbs Prima in Indis*. Above the main porch two winged lions display a shield engraved with the arms of Bombay. The Corporation Hall is a magnificent apartment, 38 feet high, 65 feet long, and 32 feet wide. It contains a number of busts, two galleries for the public, and three very beautiful brass overhead electroliers aggregating 1,500 candle power. The northern end is lighted by a handsome bay window, on the stained glass panes of which are blazoned the arms of the Corporation.

### VICTORIA TERMINUS

On Jubilee Day, 1887, the superb station and offices of the Great Indian Peninsular Railway received the name of Victoria Terminus, in honour of the Queen Empress then

celebrating the fiftieth anniversary of her long reign. Italian-Gothic in style, the building is surmounted by a large central dome crowned by a figure of Progress. Below in a niche under the clock is a statue of the Queen Empress.

The main entrance is in Hornby Road, through a frontage which extends a distance of over 1,500 feet.

What now ranks architecturally as one of the finest edifices of its kind in existence was preceded by a wretched wooden structure that did duty as terminal station prior to 1878. In front of it stretched the dhobi ghat, where all the washing of the town was done. Close by was the Phansi Talao or Gibbett Pond, its banks adorned by a gallows until 1805, when it was transferred to Umarkhardi Gaol. The pillory was another near neighbour of unsavoury repute. Particular interest attaches to the site of Victoria Terminus. Here stood the fourteenth century temple of Mumba Devi, patron deity and God-mother of Bombay. Her shrine was demolished about 1760, as a military precaution.

## GENERAL POST OFFICE

Built in Indo-Saracenic style, the General Post Office is constructed out of local basalt, yellow Kurla stone and white stone from Dhrangadra in effective combination. The most interesting portion is the central hall, which extends up, without interruption, to the top of the vast dome. The interior arrangement of the various departments is admirable. On the ground floor accommodation is provided for those sections dealing with the inland and foreign postal services, registration and mails. The savings bank, correspondence and accounts bureaus are situated on the first floor, while the second storey is reserved for the dead letter office, the offices of the Postmaster-General, and the residential quarters of the

**Residency Postmaster.** Regular postal communication with England was established in 1787. In that year the Governor-General of Bengal was instructed to despatch one of the Company's armed cruisers annually. She was to sail from Calcutta with Mails on November 30, touching at Fort St. George, Madras, and Bombay, whence she was to proceed direct to Suez, returning thence with the Company's despatches. Private persons might send letters by her.

On April 1, 1788, an overland postal service was inaugurated between Madras and Bombay, via Hyderabad and Poona. It was agreed that each of the two Presidencies should maintain four pairs of Kasids, or special messengers. These were to start from Madras on the first and third Wednesday of the month, and from Bombay on the second and fourth Wednesday. What are described as single letters cost Rs. 2, double letters Rs. 4 and treble letters Rs. 6. Parcels were charged for at Rs. 4 per ounce. The Kasids undertook to deliver everything entrusted to them within twenty-five days. Mr. Morris was appointed Postmaster-General. His request for a salary was refused on the ground that the Mail service, the profits from which were apparently his perquisites, would yield him ample remuneration.

### ELPHINSTONE CIRCLE

What is now known as Elphinstone Circle covers the area once occupied by Bombay Green, the old cotton mart, a spot which figures largely in eighteenth century prints, and descriptions of the city by writers of those days. Before its conversion to its present purpose the Green had degenerated into a dusty waste much frequented by pigeons, which patronized the neighbourhood of an insignificant pagoda that stood in the middle. Grose describes it in 1750: 'What is called

the Green is a spacious area that continues from the Fort to the English Church, and is pleasantly laid out in walks planted with trees round which are mostly the houses of the English inhabitants.' Here public proclamations were read by the Secretary on horseback, in the presence of the Governor's Council, principal inhabitants and garrison. After this fashion the war against Spain was solemnly announced at 9 a.m. on August 10, 1762. On great occasions, such as the departure of a Governor, the King's Artillery and the Company's Infantry lined one side of the Green, while sepoys flanked the other, and a company of Grenadiers were drawn up by the water-side. Before embarking the President handed the keys of office to his successor, whose commission was read aloud at the Fort Gate to the firing of twenty-one cannon, three volleys of small arms, and salutes from all the vessels in the harbour.

Auctions were held under the celebrated tamarind tree, which shaded the north-west corner of the Cathedral close, hence the nickname of Amliagal. 'In front of the tamarind,' applied to Elphinstone Circle by bullock drivers. The old tree, so long a familiar landmark, was cut down on November 13, 1846.

The Circle owes its name to that able administrator, Lord Elphinstone, nominated Governor of Bombay in 1853 from whose tenure of office date so many epoch-making reforms. The handsome group of buildings, characterized by arcaded fronts, were built in 1863 and form the chief ornament of the district. At the period of their erection Bombay was experiencing a wave of unexampled prosperity due to the outbreak of Civil War in the United States, which diverted the cotton trade to its port from New Orleans. The design was sanctioned by Sir George Clerk (1860-62) and completed under his successor Sir Bartle Frere.

## ST. THOMAS' CATHEDRAL

This is one of the oldest and most interesting mementoes of the early English community in Bombay. Unlike their Portuguese predecessors, whose first care on arrival was to build churches, the little British colony had no better place of divine worship for over a century than a room in the Castle known as the Fort Chapel. General dissatisfaction with the arrangement found voice in letters written by Gerald Aungier, the famous governor, who, in 1669, succeeded Sir George Oxinden as President of the Court of Directors at Surat. Both in 1672 and again in 1674 Mr. Aungier wrote to the Council at Surat urging the advisability of erecting a small English Church in the island. The project is frequently alluded to in correspondence of the period. A letter from Surat, dated 1676, speaks of 'our public worship performed in the hall, belonging to your Fort.' Meantime a beginning had been made in Sir George Oxinden's time by collecting subscriptions for the proposed Church. Hamilton refers to this effort in 'his New Account of the East Indies' published in 1727. 'But when Sir George died piety grew sick, and the building of Churches was grown unfashionable. Indeed it was a long while before the island had people enough to fill a chapel that was in the Fort, for as fast as our recruits came from Britain they died in Bombay.'

As a matter of fact the foundations of the Church were laid during Aungier's rule, the death of Oxinden having occurred in 1669. Altogether a sum of Rs. 50,000 was collected. Some of the Company's servants donated as much as a year's salary towards the fund, which was handed to the chaplains of Bombay and Surat. The controversy over a site was long and heated. The graveyard at Mendhams Point, so called from the first man buried there, was suggested. This proposal was objected to as being too much out of

the way. The President and Council of Surat wrote : ' We do all agree that the Church must not be too far distant from your Fort, to say not above eighty rods. Also that the plain be left open and free between it and the Fort.'

A site was ultimately decided upon at the corner of Bombay Green, now Elphinstone Circle. Building was started, and the walls had attained a height of 15 feet, when, in 1681, Sir John Child was nominated Governor after the death of Aungier. Then all of a sudden, without explanation or warning, the work was abandoned and it became noised abroad that the funds had mysteriously disappeared.

For a generation or more the sacred edifice remained with its abortive walls providing shelter for any wild animal that cared to harbour inside. Such was the state of affairs when Richard Cobbe, the new chaplain sent out by the Company, landed on September 21, 1714. By this time Sir John Wyborne had greatly improved the Castle in the Fort, and had converted two of the middle rooms into a chapel described by contemporaries as ' very convenient.' Here divine worship was held within locked doors. No strangers were admitted, as a military precaution lest, under pretence of prayer, their real object might be to spy out the defences. Dowered with far more zeal and energy than his predecessors, Mr. Cobbe chose the first Sunday after Trinity in the following year on which to preach a stirring sermon exhorting the English community to ' wipe away the reproach of being godless in the sight of the heathen ' by completing the sanctuary. The result was that a new foundation stone was solemnly laid in November, 1715, by the Deputy Governor, Mr. Stephen Strutt.

This time there was no slackening of enthusiasm. On Christmas Day, 1718, the finished Church was formally opened

by command of the Governor, Mr. Charles Boone, and received the name of St. James. The Honourable Charles Boone, President and Governor of Bombay, repaired in state from the Fort to the Church, where he was met at the west entrance, by the Chaplain repeating the 24th Psalm. The interior was decorated with palms and banana trees. The sermon was from Isaiah lvi. verse 7, and was followed by a baptism, at which the Governor stood sponsor. The child received the name of Susanna. Afterwards the congregation repaired to the vestry to drink success to the new Church in a glass of sack. Proceedings concluded with a banquet given by the Governor at his lodgings in the Castle. The toast drunk was 'The Church and King', whereupon the guns of the garrison, and the ships in the harbour thundered a salute.

The tower was not finished. The design included a steeple 'intended for a sea mark as high as funds could tower it.' Describing the sacred edifice, a writer of the time alludes to it as having windows fitted with mother-o'-pearl instead of glass. It is also recorded how a duty of one and a half per cent was levied on all goods entering Bombay, and the proceeds devoted to Church repairs.

Mr. Cobbe's efforts were favourably regarded by the Court of Directors. An order from London accordingly authorized the Chaplain of Bombay to take precedence after the Council. Unhappily his success appears to have made him overbearing and tyrannical. He gave such offence that he was suspended in July 1720, and dismissed the Company's service. Thereafter he sank into obscurity as Vicar of Wint, in Dorsetshire. He was succeeded, in Bombay, by Mr. Waters, described as a good reader.

Early in the nineteenth century the rapidly increasing importance of the island city led to its being made an Arch-deaconry of the See of Calcutta. On June 7, 1816, the

sacred edifice was consecrated in the name of St. Thomas by Doctor Middleton, the first Anglican Bishop in India.

In 1835 Bombay was raised to the dignity of a Bishopric with Doctor Carr as its first Bishop. To mark its new honours the present clock tower was substituted for the old belfry. Further changes were proposed in 1863, and the first stone of the renovations was laid by the Governor, Sir Bartle Frere. At this period Bombay was experiencing the full benefit of the cotton trade diverted from New Orleans by the Civil War then being fought in the United States. With the close of American hostilities in 1865 the city suffered a severe reverse of fortune. Lean years followed the fat ones. In common with all other public institutions the Cathedral suffered. Of the many projected innovations only the fountain facing the main entrance, the chancel and the organ loft, were carried to completion. The last contains a splendid instrument, expressly built for St. Thomas' at a cost of Rs. 15,000.

The Cathedral contains many fine monuments of much historical interest. Prominent among those lining the walls are memorials to Jonathan Duncan, Governor of Bombay from 1795 until 1811, to Stephen Babington, reviser of the judicial code, to Brigadier-General Carnac, famous for his defeat of the Shahzada in 1761, and to Captain Hardinge, R.N., who fell in the victorious naval engagement between the English ship 'San Florenzo' and the French frigate 'Le Pied Montaise' off the coast of Ceylon. Bishop Carr lies in the southern transept. The spot is marked by a white marble effigy of the prelate in full episcopal robes.

Other interesting monuments are to Admiral Maitland, forever celebrated as the Commander of H.M.S. 'Bellerephon,' to whom Napoleon surrendered, to Major Pottinger, hero of the defence of Herat, to Sir Robert Oliver, first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Navy, to John Watson, Superintendent



of Marine, killed at the Siege of Thana in 1774, and to Colonel Burton Barr, winner of the Battle of Kirkee, where-by the Deccan passed to Great Britain.

Also worthy of note are three beautiful upper clerestory windows to the memory of Michael Scott, five lancet windows erected to officers of their corps by the Royal Engineers, and the tessellated pavement in the chancel dedicated to the late Archdeacon Fletcher.

Among its most cherished treasures the muniment chest numbers two ancient silver chalices, one the gift of the Greenland Merchants of the city of York, 1632, and the other donated by Gerald Aungier, in 1675, to the Christian community of Bombay. The Cathedral suffered a serious loss in 1821, when most of the plate was stolen. A small portion only was recovered, but not the sacred vessels dating from the first English settlement. President Aungier remembered the church in his will to the extent of Rs. 5,000. His brother, the Earl of Longford, refused to pay the bequest although pressed to do so by the Court of Directors.

The oldest decipherable inscription is on the tomb of George Scott, Esq., obit July 1, 1758.

## HIGH COURT

After many changes of residence, more or less worthy the majesty of the law, the High Court finally settled down in the imposing block of buildings it has occupied in Mayo Road since 1879. The style represented is Early English Gothic. Colonel T. E. Fuller, R.E., drew the designs, which were carried out in rubble and chunam roughly faced with blue basalt, at an expenditure of Rs. 16,44,528.

The interior is distinguished by an unusual number of staircases. No less than nine run up from the ground floor, while thirteen connect the first and second storeys. The main

staircase used by the public is situated in the eastern side. Two private staircases are exclusively reserved for the judges in the western portion and are situated in the octagonal towers at either side of the porch.

For a long time the administration of justice in Bombay was of a most elementary description. In 1670 President Aungier established two Courts of Judicature. The Inferior Court consisted of a Company's Civil officer assisted by two Indian officials, who decided cases when the sums in question did not exceed 200 xeraphins (Rs. 145). The Superior Court was presided over by the Deputy Governor and Council, whose verdicts were regarded as final in both civil and criminal cases. A Portuguese named Simao Serrao was made adviser to the Deputy Governor on account of his intimate knowledge of Portuguese customs, and civil and imperial laws. Moreover Aungier built 'a fair common house,' wherein the Court of Justice, prison, granaries and ammunition were lodged. A Recorder was appointed in 1671. Thirteen years later Mr. St. John, Doctor of Civil Law, was nominated Judge of the Admiralty Court 'in the East Indies, and of all our maritime affairs there' upon an annual salary of £200. His food was to be supplied at the Governor's table, and a convenient place was to be assigned him for holding the Court of Admiralty, 'which is designed for proceeding against all interlopers and private ships and persons trading contrary to His Majesty's Rôyal Charter granted to us.'

Shortly afterwards the Directors wrote: 'We are now much set upon the improvement of our island of Bombay, and do esteem it a place of more consequence than we had formerly done.'

Early in the eighteenth century a leading Bombay Brahmin, named Rama Kamaṭi, was accused of treasonable correspondence with the pirate Angria. After a long trial he was

pronounced guilty, on April 20, 1720. His property was accordingly valued and sold. Among his many possessions was a double storeyed warehouse, 86 feet long, in the bazaar. This was purchased for Rs. 6,000. The upper floor was converted into a Court of Judicature and the lower a granary.

The Mayor's Court was formed in 1728. It was composed of the Mayor and nine Aldermen. These were required to be naturalized British subjects with the exception of two, who might be friendly neutrals. William Henry Draper was the first Mayor of Bombay. December 20 was appointed as the day upon which the Mayor and Sheriff were to be annually elected. Aldermen were assigned a palanquin allowance of Rs. 12 per mensem. Mr. John Spencer was nominated the first Accountant-General in 1747.

Great exception was taken to the practice of requiring Hindus to swear upon the cow. As they objected still more strongly to the Testament, it was urged that they might be allowed to take the oath upon the Bhagavat Gita. The authorities, however, insisted upon the retention of the Cow Oath, which was also administered in Fort St. George, Madras, and in Calcutta. As a result the Mayor's Court became increasingly unpopular. Meanwhile the Governor and Council of Bombay had been constituted a Court of Oyer and Terminer, and General Delivery. This was superseded by a Recorder's Court in 1798. For purposes of criminal judicature Bombay was treated as a county. In 1728 Dongri Fort was converted into a prison. Upon its demolition, prior to erecting Fort George, the gaol was transferred to the lower rooms of a building in Marine Yard. The Mayor's Court was absorbed into the Recorder's Court, which comprised the Recorder, Sir Wm. Syer, Bart., the Mayor of Bombay and three Aldermen, all of whom were required to act as Judges by rotation. The new Court similarly swallowed up the

Court of Appeals. It first sat in 'Colonel Jones house in Marine Street.' In 1800 it was transferred to Admiralty House, now the Great Western Hotel.

Twelve Justices of the Peace were appointed in 1808. They were chosen from the Company's servants and other British residents of note. Their duties included the proper cleaning, repairing and policing of the city, for which purpose they were empowered to assess the inhabitants and issue special licences. Prior to that the Governor and Council acted as Justices of the Peace. They sat at a Quarterly Court of Sessions, and invited two of the leading residents to a place on the Bench beside them.

### **RAJABAI TOWER AND UNIVERSITY LIBRARY**

A temple well worthy of Sarasvati, Goddess of Learning, is the noble and beautiful edifice containing the University Library. Planned by Sir Gilbert Scott, R.A., it was completed in 1880 at a cost of Rs. 6,32,000. The sum was entirely defrayed by Premchand Roychand, Esq., J. P., who named the tower after his mother, Rajabai.

A fine stairway, lighted by stained glass windows of much artistic merit, leads to the library on the upper floor, a cruciform chamber suggestive of a mediæval Gothic chapel. The arched ceiling is handsomely panelled, and the massive teak doors reproduce some of the best carved examples found in old Hindu temples. Books line the walls, while the warm splendour of the sun is tempered to a cool scholastic glow as it filters through the subdued purple, crimson, blue and green panes of the stained windows. At the further end is a curious bust of Sir George Birdwood, holding a small figure of Sarasvati in his right hand.

The tower over the portico is one of the first landmarks to arrest attention as ships enter Bombay harbour. It rises in

five richly ornate storeys to a cupola 280 feet above. The decorations introduce carved statues of Porebunder stone, each 8 feet high, portraying characteristic types and costumes common to Western India.

The famous Rajabai clock in the tower is fitted with a sweetly-chiming peal of sixteen bells. These play sixteen different tunes which change automatically four times a day.

### THE SENATE

Immediately south of the Library is the Senate or Sir Cowasjee Jehangir University Hall, a sister building also designed in thirteenth century French-Gothic by Sir Gilbert Scott. It is the earlier edifice of the two, having been ready for use in 1874. Distinguishing features are a high gable roof and four square towers. The chief glory of the Senate is the principal chamber. This measures 104 feet by 44 feet and is 63 feet high. Surrounding it is a gallery, while an apse at one end contains raised seats. A circular window, 20 feet in diameter, displays the twelve signs of the zodiac in appropriate colours, other stained glass windows showing the arms of Sir Cowasjee Jehangir, and of former Chancellors of the University, as well as those of Bombay, England, Scotland, Ireland, and Wales.

The Bombay University is not an educational establishment in the ordinary acceptance of the term. It exists uniquely for the purpose of conferring degrees.

### SECRETARIAT

Beyond the Senate lies the Secretariat, an imposing building with a frontage of  $443\frac{1}{2}$  feet facing Back Bay, and two wings that extend eighty-one feet in the rear. It was begun in April, 1867, and finished in March, 1874. The style represented is Venetian-Gothic. Colonel Wilkins, R.E., was the architect, and the cost of erection amounted to Rs. 12,60,844.

## AFTERNOON.

Drive along Queen's Road, and via Sandhurst Bridge, Hughes Road, Gwalior Tank Road and Warden Road to Maha Lakshmi Temple. Proceed to Hornby Vellard. Returned via Pedder Road, Gwalior Tank Road, Breach Candy Road, and Girgaum Road. In the last named, note Zaoba's Rama Mandar (Rama Temple). Pass the Atesh Behram Fire Temple, and home via Esplanade Road.

### QUEEN'S ROAD

For a considerable distance Queen's Road sweeps along Back Bay in a line parallel to that followed by the railway track. Beyond the enclosed space, wherein the fire carriage puffs noisily on its way to and from the B.B. and C.I. terminal at Colaba, is the Kennedy Sea Face, a piece of reclaimed ground named after Colonel Kennedy, R.E., one time Secretary to the Public Works Department. Its close proximity to the beach makes the Sea Face a popular resort with both equestrians and pedestrians. It has also found favour with the Parsi, Hindu, and Muhammadan athletic communities, who have built themselves gymkhanas therein. The imposing block of buildings looking across Queen's Road towards Church Gate station contains the offices of the Bombay, Baroda, and Central India Railway.

### MAHA LAKSHMI TEMPLE

Maha Lakshmi is the Hindu goddess of Good Fortune. She is generally worshipped in conjunction with her consort, Vishnu. Such is not the case, however, in the temple at

Breach Candy on the promontory overlooking Worli. A curious tale is told of this sanctuary in connection with the Hornby Vellard. When the causeway was being constructed the works twice gave way for no apparent reason. After the second catastrophe the mistri in charge, a Prabhu, had a vivid dream in which Lakshmi appeared to him. The goddess informed him that her image lay in the channel he desired to bridge. She further instructed him to remove it and set it up on its present site, where she desired a temple to be erected in her honour. When this was accomplished she assured him the causeway would stand. Tradition relates that to avoid Muhammadan profanation the three goddesses of the original shrine had leapt into Ksherasagara, as Worli creek was then styled.

No sooner had day dawned than the mistri departed on his quest. He speedily found the figure, applied to Government for the site on the promontory named by the goddess, and built the temple overlooking the Khind, or break now termed Breach Candy.

Warden Road runs past Maha Lakshmi Battery, to where a narrow turning on the left of the highway leads in a north-westerly direction through a picturesque Indian settlement, of the kind usually found in close proximity to holy places. Following this byeway for a few moments a series of three flights of stone steps is reached. The stairs lead up to a court, in the centre of which stands the white temple of Maha Lakshmi. Entrance is through a *mantapam* or hall, its roof adorned with vividly coloured figures of rishis or patriarchs. Within the open door of the shrine a glimpse is caught of an altar whereon are ranged three black forms garlanded with flowers. The miraculous image of Lakshmi occupies the post of honour in the middle. To right is Kali, dread goddess of blood sacrifice, and to left Sarasvati, goddess of learning.

By the door watches a dark-hued statue of Gannapatti, the all-popular elephant deva.\*

Within a short distance is yet another Hindu sanctuary of much repute, called Dhakji's Temple after its founder, a former Prime Minister of Baroda. The shrine is regarded as a particularly good example of Hindu temple architecture. Rupees 80,000 were expended upon the building by Dhakji.

### HORNBY VELLARD

The great causeway uniting Bombay and Worli was constructed in the latter part of the eighteenth century during the governorship of William Hornby. It takes its name of Vellard from the Portuguese word vallado, a fence. A plan for filling in the Great, or Mahalakshmi, Lovegrove Breach was drawn up by Captain Bates in 1720. The work continued for seven years but proved so slow, and costly that the Court ordered it to be abandoned.

A fine carriage drive sweeps round the edge of the reclaimed tract. Eastward lies Mahalakshmi racecourse, while to north and south the land projects seawards in promontories crowned by handsome Parsi mansions.

At low tide a roughly constructed causeway is visible, stretching out towards the middle of the bay. This leads to the rich and noted Muhammadan shrine of Haji Ali, situated about half-a-mile from the shore. The mortal remains of the saint repose in a handsome white mausoleum. The tomb is covered by a pall of gaily coloured silk strewn with orange blossom. To west rises a carved mosque, its walls inscribed with texts from the Koran. Round about crowd the dwellings of attendant mullahs and their families. The shrine is exceedingly prosperous and much visited by devotees from far and near.



Proceeding northwards from Hornby Vellard the road leads in the direction of Worli Fort. Those desirous of becoming familiar with the process of curing bummaloë (Bombay duck) can acquire the coveted knowledge by leaving their carriage and walking through the fishing village at Worli. They will be guided in the right direction by a peculiarly powerful and penetrating odour of drying fish. Worli, by the way, is a corruption of Vadali, the Marathi for banian grove, which tree (the *figus indica* whereof Adam and Eve made themselves garments of fig leaves) was once very common in the neighbourhood. Hindus regard the vad with veneration for the medicinal properties of its roots, which are held to cure melancholy.

### ZAOPA'S RAMA MANDAR

This is a modern Hindu temple famed for the figures of its three principal deities. Said to be the most beautiful of any in Bombay, the images stand on a marble altar enclosed by brass railings. In the centre is a marble representation of Rama, otherwise Vishnu, in his seventh incarnation. The god is held to have assumed human form as Rama, son of King Dasharatha of Ajodhya, in order to rid the earth of Ravana, the ten-headed demon monarch of Ceylon.

The image in Zaoba's Mandar is about three and a half feet high, and is remarkable for the curious expression of the gleaming eyes. The deva is dressed in brilliantly coloured silks and jewels, and carries a bow and arrow in commemoration of the weapon with which Ravana was slain. On the left stands Sita, Rama's beautiful wife, and on the right his brother, Lakshmana, here popularly worshipped as an incarnation of Sessa, the great cobra deity.

Overhead stretches a richly gilt canopy, further decorative effect being lent by a mirror and a revolving parasol. Fresh

garlands of perfumed flowers are daily hung about the necks of the three figures.

The temple was originally a Prabhu residence. Under the will of the last owner, Vithoba Vasudevji, it was converted to its present purpose. The exterior is characterized by a dome and statues of rishis or patriarchs above the verandahs. On entering, worshippers ring a large bell that hangs at the top of the steps leading up to the main entrance. They next proceed to offer rice, sweetmeats or money at the foot of the altar. This accomplished, they close their eyes and repeat a short prayer imploring pardon, mercy and favour.

The Prabhu community, of which Vithoba Vasudevji was a member, trace their connection with Bombay back to the thirteenth century A.D. At the epoch that King Bhimdev founded his capital at Mahim, whither he had withdrawn to escape Muhammadan persecution, the Prabhus ranked first among his followers. They have been described as 'a noblesse of commerce and politics.'

### ATESH BEHRAM

There are thirty-three fire temples in Bombay. These are divided into three classes. First and foremost rank those distinguished by the title of Atesh Behram, or the Fire of Behram, Angel of Success. In sanctuaries of the kind the sacred flame is fed with sixteen varieties of fuel. Next comes the Agiari, or Place of Fire, also spoken of as the Dare-meher, or Gate of Mercy. Thirdly, there is the Atesh Dadgah, or Proper Place of Fire.

Anjuman's Atesh Behram, in Chandanwadi, is a modern building, opened for worship in 1897. Rupees 2,30,000 were expended upon the sanctuary, which is in Persepolitan style, the frontage being a reproduction of King Jamshed's palace. As in all temples of the kind, the shrine proper is never entered

by any but a priest. It consists of a square apartment measuring 25 feet by 25 feet. The centre is occupied by a marble pedestal, which supports a silver brazier holding the sacred fire. From this holy of holies steals the mingled fragrance of sandal and frankincense.

The sanctum contains bells which ring punctually at each of the five *gehs* or Parsi divisions of the day. Weapons are also kept there. The priest in charge is bound to use them if necessary, his office obliging him to defend the sacred fire from all attempts to defile or quench its flame. No other light than that emitted by the brazier is allowed to penetrate the innermost chamber. Adjoining it is the prayer hall, a square, richly carpeted apartment rather more than double the size of the sanctum sanctorum.

Parsis are frequently spoken of as fire worshippers. This error probably arises from the fact that followers of the ancient Zoroastrian faith are directed to face the sun or a flame when praying. They regard fire as the purest and most sacred of elements, although they also revere earth and water. Their priests wear white clothing and a turban.

The oldest existing Atesh Behram in Bombay was founded by Dady Nasarwanji in 1783. It is situated in Girgaum, near Fummuswadi Lane.

## SECOND DAY—MORNING

Drive to Malabar Hill via Chaupatti, Hughes Road and Gibbs Road. Visit the Parsi Towers of Silence and the Hanging Gardens. Proceed along Walkeshwar Road to Walkeshwar Temple and Tank.

### MALABAR HILL

This is the favourite residential quarter, hence the large and handsome bungalows built upon every available site. Named Malabar Hill by the English, and Walkeshwar by the Indian population, the fashionable eminence lies on the western side of Bombay, and terminates in a sharply pointed promontory to the south. On this latter Government House is situated. It became the official residence of the Governor in 1885, when Parel House was abandoned. Prior to that a small bungalow, known as Marine Villa, used to stand on Malabar point, and occasionally the Governor repaired thither for the hot weather. Earlier still, in the eighteenth century, it was the site of a lofty tower, wherein Ragunathrao, the deposed Peshwa, passed his exile from Poona. Now and again he ventured forth to visit the adjacent holy cleft on the seashore near Walkeshwar Tank.

In 1738 Malabar Hill was let to Jiji Moody at an annual rental of Rs. 175. For the benefit of shipping a signal house was established on the Point in 1766. Prior to that vessels had to depend for guidance upon certain lofty tombs in the graveyards at Mendham's Point and Old Woman's Island, and

also upon the Mark House at Mazgaon, which last, early in the eighteenth century, was kept whitewashed for the assistance of vessels entering, or leaving the harbour. In 1758 Mr. Thomas Byfield requested permission to repair it for his own residence. This was granted upon condition that he whitewashed it once a year, and paid an annual rent of Rs. 23. A consultation dated April 4, 1761, states : 'The renter of the Mark House Mazgaon has been acquainted that it shall always be in our power to destroy it conformally to your Honour's Commands.'

### TOWERS OF SILENCE

Nothing in Bombay makes more powerful appeal to the imagination of the ordinary visitor than the far-famed Towers of Silence on Malabar Hill. On almost any day of the week processions of white-robed Parsis may be seen wending their way thither along Gibbs Road, each couple grasping a paiwand or handkerchief between them in silent sympathy. Slowly and solemnly the cortège walks behind the iron bier with its still, white-shrouded burden, until mourners and mourned alike disappear within the yellow gateway beyond which the vultures wait. A great stillness broods over the place sacred to Sraosha, guardian angel of the newly dead.

There is nothing about the enclosure, which covers some 8,000 square yards, suggestive of a cemetery. Rather, it seems that when the Parsis selected the spot in accordance with their religion, which enjoins that towers for the dead shall be situated on an eminence, they contented themselves with building walls around it. Otherwise they appear to have left it much as it was in the time of its early owners, the Malabars. The masterly grouping of trees and rocks is certainly Nature's own handiwork.

The grounds contain five towers. Three of these are reserved for public use. A fourth, set somewhat apart, is kept exclusively for suicides and criminals. The fifth and oldest was erected in 1672 by Modi Hizi Wachha, one of the earliest Parsi settlers. It is now only used by his descendants.

No attempt at architectural display has been made in any of the towers. Their outer appearance is uniformly that of low, round turrets solidly built of grey stone. Steps lead up to the only aperture in the walls, a small iron door set several feet above the ground. This, in each case, admits to a circular platform composed of large stone slabs hollowed out into spaces of a size and shape adapted to receive one body. There are three graduated rows of these receptacles. This number was selected to accord with the three moral precepts of Zoroastra, 'Good deeds, good words, good thoughts.' The outermost row is reserved for men, the second for women, and the innermost for children. Beyond again is a big central well into which the bones are swept after having been stripped clean by the vultures. From there four drains carry off rain water and other deposits, which are thoroughly filtered by passing through charcoal and sandstone before emptying themselves into a series of subterranean wells coated with thick layers of sand at the base.

No living being ever enters the Towers of Silence other than the white-clad Nasāsālārs, to whom are entrusted the last sad rites. All around the parapets crowd the vultures, watching and waiting. Those that cannot find space on the walls perch on the adjacent trees, striking the one sinister note in the sunlit garden.

An attendant courteously points out the Fire Temple and the house where records are stored. He also explains a small but excellent model of the interior of the towers.

The Parsi custom of disposing of their dead dates back some three thousand years. It originated as much out of sanitary as religious considerations.

## WALKESHWAR

Shortly before Walkeshwar Road terminates at the entrance to Government House a passage on the right, known as Banganga Lane, leads down to Banganga Tank in a series of uneven stone steps of the kind encountered in old Italian cities and villages.

It would be impossible to imagine any scene more typically Indian than that which greets the stranger as he emerges from the narrow byeway into the full sunlight of the open space sacred to the Sand God, Walkeshwar. In the centre stretches the large *tirtham* called Banganga, its mysterious depths troubled by the slowly moving forms of huge turtles. Myriads of pigeons settle on the broken steps leading to the water's edge, while a dark patch in one corner reveals the presence of a deeply sunken well about which marvellous tales are told as to its supernatural origin and the virtues it possesses. Dotted amid the encircling temples, shrines and dwellings, wherein the Brahman community make their home, are curious minars or miniature towers, honeycombed with innumerable small spaces for buttis or lights.

The modern temple of Walkeshwar stands on the western bank of the tank. It occupies the site of the famous ancient sanctuary of the same name destroyed some time in the fifteenth or sixteenth century. The present edifice was built in 1715 by Rama Kamat, of the Shenir caste, a noted employee of the British Government. Constructed of stone, it displays a fairly high dome and is reputed to contain the original lingam fashioned by Rama out of sand collected on the seashore

near by. Hence the name Walkeshwar, or the God Made of Sand.

From the south-west corner of the sacred enclosure a narrow opening in the rocks leads down a roughly hewn flight of stone steps in the direction of the celebrated Shri Gundi, or Lucky Stone, credited with the power of removing the sins of all those who pass through it. On the seashore, to left of the stairway, is the Rama Kund, a square well much affected by pilgrims, who believe it to have been pierced by an arrow from Rama's bow.

In the early ages of the Christian era this spot was regarded with extraordinary veneration by the Silharas, a powerful dynasty whose capital was situated in the neighbouring island of Gharapuri (Elephanta). The curious cleft in the rock made powerful appeal to their imagination. This, stimulated by superstition, aided, no doubt, by local tales of a marvellous kind, led them to attribute supernatural qualities to the locality of the fancied yoni. Being of Dravidian origin they named the place Shri Gundi or Lucky Stone, and built a vast temple near by to the Trimurti, or divine triad, Brahma, Siva, and Vishnu.

As time went on the Brahmans attached to the shrine altered the name Shri Gundi to that of Walkeshwar. Their authority for so doing was a legend to the effect that Rama halted on the spot during his journey to Ceylon and made a lingam of sand on the seashore. This was called Valuka Ishwara, or the Sand Lord. When the original temple to the Trimurti was destroyed by either Muhammadans or Portuguese this lingam is said to have been concealed until such time as Rama Kanat built the present Walkeshwar Temple and reinstated the emblem. Sivaji, founder of the Maratha power, is said to have squeezed through the auspicious cleft.



From the earliest ages the sanctity of the place drew thousands of pilgrims to the island. Their bare feet wore a track upwards from the landing stage at Choupatti through the dense jangal covering the hillside. In course of time this path grew to be known as the Ladder. It has now developed into Siri Road. Few people as they drive along it up Malabar Hill spare a thought for those early pilgrims whose pious fervour first cleared the way to Walkeshwar.



## AFTERNOON

Visit the Victoria and Albert Museum and Victoria Gardens, Byculla. Drive there via Abdul Rahman Street and Parel Road.

### ABDUL RAHMAN STREET

This busy thoroughfare is rich in colour, interest and variety. The closely crowded shops are owned by Indian merchants and display a tempting selection of wares. On every hand gold and silver embroideries, jewelled and worked caps and slippers, carved black wood, rugs, carpets, Cutch work, silver ware, hookahs, carved and painted ivories, brasses, silken scarves and fine Kashmir shawls, of the kind known as Rampur chadars, jewellery and gems, attract the eye and catch the fancy.

From the east side of the road a byeway leads in the direction of the tank and temple of Mumbadevi, tutelary deity of Bombay. The shrine of the goddess dates from 1763. Prior to that it occupied a site on the Esplanade. The goddess was placed in the earlier shrine sometime during the fourteenth century by a member of the aboriginal Koli caste, and removed to the present sanctuary when the older one was cleared away to make room for certain essential improvements. Close to the modern temple cluster numerous other shrines to Gannapatti, the elephant god, Hannuman, the monkey god, Siva, Indrani, etc. The neighbourhood abounds in temples. The principal place of Muhammadan worship, the Jama Musjid, is situated close by in Sheikh Memon Street, near the Crawford Market.

## PAREL ROAD

Not far from where Grant Road enters Parel Road from the west attention is attracted to an imposing succession of large buildings on the right of the main thoroughfare. These include the Jamsetjee Jeejeebhoy Hospital, erected in 1841 at the joint expense of the munificent Parsi philanthropist whose name it bears, and of the old East India Company, the Hospital for Incurables, the Bai Motlabai Wadia Hospital and the Dinshaw Maneckjee Petit Hospital. Hard by is the Grant Medical College, established in 1845 as a memorial to Sir Robert Grant, Governor of Bombay.

Proceeding northwards, the main road leads past Christ Church and Byculla Railway Station to Victoria Gardens.

## VICTORIA AND ALBERT MUSEUM

This museum was founded in 1858 to commemorate Queen Victoria's assumption of the title Empress of India. The cost was defrayed by public subscription supplemented by a Government grant. Originally intended to represent the economic products and natural history of Western India, the collection has become more catholic in scope and now includes a reference library and a number of statues.

The building itself is a square stone structure, Italian renaissance in style. Four Corinthian pillars adorn the upper part of the facade, while the internal decorations are of a particularly ornate description.

Special interest attaches to the reconstructed figure of a large elephant standing to west of the main entrance outside. This is none other than the colossal statue found at Gharapuri by the Portuguese in the sixteenth century, which led them to nickname the island Elephanta, the title by which it is now generally known.

## VICTORIA GARDENS

These beautiful gardens constitute yet another of the many triumphs of art over nature which Bombay can boast. They occupy what was once a useless stretch of low-lying land, some forty-eight acres in extent. When the ground belonging to the Agri-Horticultural Society at Sewri was requisitioned as a European cemetery it became necessary to transfer the Society's plants elsewhere. The recently reclaimed tract at Byculla was suggested as most suitable for the purpose, and the work of laying out the present gardens began in 1862. Eleven years later the Society was dissolved, since when the gardens have been managed by the Municipal Corporation.

The entrance is rendered imposing by a handsome gateway on Parel Road, the David Sassoon clock tower and fountain and a small Græco-Roman pavilion to the memory of Lady Frere. Graceful triple arches surmount the turnstiles through which visitors pass to the delights within. The grounds are charmingly laid out and abound in rare plants and flowers amid which tiny lakes sparkle, gem-like in the golden sunshine. Brightly plumaged birds perch on the tall palms and strange tropical trees. Every now and again the roar of a lion, or low deep growl of a tiger, breaks through the perfumed air with startling clearness, for amid their many attractions the gardens number a fine collection of wild animals. Slowly and solemnly a stately elephant paces the broad paths, a crowd of happy little children securely seated high up in his howdah. To them Victoria Gardens seems a second Garden of Paradise.

## OLD GOVERNMENT HOUSE

Continuing northwards, Parel Road leads to old Government House, now converted into the Bombay Bacteriological Laboratory. The building dates from the Portuguese

occupation of the islands. Originally erected by the Franciscans, it passed to the Jesuits, who used it as a college and chapel. In 1719 the English took it over from the missionaries and employed it as a hot-weather retreat for the Governor of Bombay until 1776, when Mr. William Hornby elected to make it his official residence. From then on it acted as Government House. It was there that King Edward VII stayed when, as Prince of Wales, he visited the city in November, 1875. Shortly after his nomination as Governor, Mountstuart Elphinstone wrote an amusing letter of his first impressions. It is dated Parel, December 3, 1819: 'How do I like Bombay? Very well. I am not nearly so hard worked as in the Deccan. Much of my work is half play, such as talking to people who come to see me on business, going to Council, going to Church. What I dread, detest and abhor is making speeches, and ceremonies of that nature. All the other people in Bombay harangue to a degree. No party of thirty meets without thirty regular speeches. This, though sometimes amusing, is the great reproach of Bombay. Otherwise the society is pleasant and easy. People always dance, or have a good deal of music and singing, when there is a party, and no stiff private circle. The Governor, too, by the custom of Bombay, constantly drives out, and is quite a private gentleman.'

In 1885 Parel was abandoned in favour of Malabar Point. Writing in 1763 Niebukur declared that nothing in India could compare with the splendid dining and ballrooms at Parel. The house was surrounded by beautiful gardens and the approach was by an avenue nearly a mile in length. The name is said to be derived from Parel, the tree trumpet flower (*Bignonia Suaveolens*).

## THIRD DAY--MORNING

### *Visit the Island of Elephanta*

During the cold weather months Messrs. Thomas Cook and Sons despatch a motor launch twice daily to Elephanta. It leaves Apollo Bunder at 8.30 a.m., and again at 2.30 p.m. Boats can also be hired independently. The best starting point is from the steps opposite the stone placed by Lord Sydenham, in 1913, to mark the site of the proposed Gate of India. The crossing takes a little over an hour.

### ELEPHANTA

Elephanta is about six miles from Bombay and four from the shore of the mainland. It is less than five miles in circumference and consists of two long hills and a narrow valley opening somewhat to the south-east. The approach is very pretty. As the boat draws near, the island is seen rising gracefully out of the encircling blue of the sea, which breaks in a fine line of white foam against its green clad sides covered with low karanda bushes and tall palmyra palms.

The nickname of Elephanta was given to the place early in the sixteenth century by the Portuguese because of a large stone elephant that stood near the old landing stage on the south side. The figure measured 7 feet 4 inches in height and was 13 feet 2 inches long. In 1814 the head dropped off. Subsequently it was removed to its present position outside the Victoria and Albert Museum, Byculla. Descriptions also exist of a monolithic horse that stood rather south-east of the entrance to the great cave temple.

The modern landing place is on the north-west side of the island. To right of the long line of stone blocks which form the pier a thick fringe of mangroves extends far out to sea. Their dull green leaves and curious white blossoms tempt the passer by to stretch out his hand and pull a branch. A paved ascent, constructed in 1853 by Karamsi Ranmal, a Lohana merchant of Bombay, leads up to the level clearing whereon stands the approach to the great cave temple. At the foot of the three hundred odd steps mounting from the shore a number of coolies wait to carry visitors up in chairs swung shoulder high on bamboo poles. Facing the top of the stairway is a bungalow inhabited by the custodian, who issues tickets of admittance to the cave at four annas apiece. Picture post cards and light refreshments may also be procured.

## GHARAPURI

So far the visitor has perceived nothing to indicate that he is treading soil rich in historical associations. He sees a practically deserted island but understands vaguely that it forms part of the defences of Bombay. No crumbling wall, or semi-ruined pillar casts a shadow from the past across the bright sunlight of the present. Vanished as a dream are all traces of the fair and stately city which once graced the north-eastern side of the island. Tall palms and karanda bushes riot at will where kingly palaces and splendid shrines stood in the far away ages of the great Maurya dynasty, whose capital was at Gharapuri, nicknamed Elephanta by men ignorant of its history.

Goddess of the Fortunes of the Western Ocean was the proud title borne by this remarkable city of ancient days. It flourished several centuries prior to the Christian Era and for some thousand years after. Finally its fortunes suffered a

permanent eclipse with the fall of the Silharas in the thirteenth century, the last kings to make it their head-quarters. In their time it was known as Mangalpuri, or City of Prosperity. On November 6, 1739, that formidable buccaneer, Manaji Angria hoisted his flag on Elephanta, where he proceeded to construct a redoubt and build a small fort on the loftiest point. His proximity caused great anxiety in Bombay. By 1775 the island had passed to the Honourable Company and was assessed at Rs. 800 a year.

### THE GREAT CAVE TEMPLE

World famous as containing one of the most noted collections of Hindu carving in existence, the great cave temple is said to bear a close resemblance in plan, size and detail to the celebrated Dumar Lena, one of the finest of the Elura Caves. The Elephanta shrine is situated in the western hill of the island 250 feet above sea level, and opens northwards on to a small terrace or court. Entrance is through the overhanging face of the cliff, the protruding rock effectively grown with such vegetation as can find a foothold. The portal is low and wide, supported by massive columns and pilasters, their flattened bulbous capitals apparently crushed beneath the stupendous weight of the mountain.

The rapid transit from brilliant sunshine to comparative obscurity is bewildering. For a few seconds the eye strives vainly to follow the dim rows of pillars as they disappear in the mysterious twilight. Then, gradually, one fantastic form after another steals ghost-like from the encircling gloom until the cave is lined with giant figures, ancient emanations from brains fed with all the rich imaginings of Vedic lore.

As the gaze becomes accustomed to the unusual sight, the real grandeur of the marvellous cave makes itself felt. One



by one the details obtrude themselves. Interest is awakened and wonder excited. On all sides carvings start out from the shadowy walls, which seem to quicken suddenly as deity after deity of the Hindu pantheon springs into view.

In common with all rock temples of Brahmanical origin in Western India, the great island sanctuary is dedicated to Siva. Its age is quite unknown. Some authorities believe it to date from before the Christian Era. Others again place it as late as the eighth century A.D. Its construction is generally ascribed to King Banasura of Kánada. This monarch is known to have built vast palaces of much magnificence upon the island, which contained his capital of Sri Babi. Unfortunately the name of its excavator and the date of the temple are irretrievably lost. The blame for this lies with the Portuguese, who found a stone above the entrance inscribed with large, clearly cut letters. This they removed. After vainly searching for some Hindu or Muhammadan capable of deciphering the inscription, they sent the tablet to Portugal, where all traces of it disappeared.

Another point on which uncertainty exists is the epoch at which the sanctuary was abandoned by priests and worshippers, and the reason for it. The fact that the Shivatri festival is still annually celebrated by a fair at Elephanta points to the cave temple as the oldest Siva shrine in the neighbourhood. This festival is the principal one in the year, and falls immediately before the first new moon in the latter half of February. At such times the sanctuary is widely patronized by members of the Bania caste.

### DIMENSIONS

From the main entrance the cave measures 130 feet long, its breadth being practically the same from east to west. The body consist of a square about 91 feet each way, divided by

six rows of pillars. On the west side this uniformity of arrangement is disturbed by a square shrine occupying a space equal to that enclosed by four columns. These last form the principal architectural feature of the temple. Of massive and appropriate design, they are all exactly alike excepting that they necessarily adapt themselves to the varying height of the roof. In every case the base consists of a square shaft about 3 feet 4 inches each way, and 8 feet high, so carved as to suggest a series of three blocks. The upper portion is finished off with an octagonal band 2 inches deep, arranged to leave sufficient corner space at each of the four angles for a small squatting figure. Above again the circular fluted neck of the pillar soars some 3 feet to support a cushion-shaped capital that projects 16 inches beyond the face. About the centre of the capital a plain narrow belt cuts through the sixty-four flutes with curious effect. Surmounting all is a bracket. This slopes away to east and west in architraves that run across the roof.

### TRIMURTI

As the eye travels up the central aisle it is finally arrested by an amazing triple bust, of colossal dimensions, set in an alcove hollowed out of the back wall exactly facing the main entrance. This extraordinary group represents the Trimurti, or divine triad, otherwise Brahma, the Creator; Vishnu, the Preserver; and Siva, the Destroyer.

The recess is  $10\frac{1}{2}$  feet deep and broadens out to  $21\frac{1}{2}$  feet inside the front pilasters, which are set  $15\frac{1}{2}$  feet apart. At either side of the opening holes are pierced in the floor and lintel for door-posts, and a groove in the ground suggests that a screen concealed the sculpture. The famous bust is 17 feet 10 inches high and measures 22 feet 9 inches around at the level of the eyes. It rests on a low altar raised  $2\frac{1}{2}$  feet.

## BRAHMA

Brahma occupies the centre. He is depicted full face, the length between chin and brows being 4 feet-4 inches. His towering head-dress is remarkably elaborate, while the lobes of his ears are distended by a load of jewels. His clean-shaven lips are unusually thick and sensual, but the general expression is placid. In his left hand he holds a pomegranate.

Curiously enough although Brahma is counted chief of the Trimurti he is now rarely if ever worshipped. Statues of him are only found in very old temples, modern Hindus being divided into followers of Siva and Vishnu.

## SIVA

I am the god of the sensuous fire  
 That moulds all nature in forms divine ;  
 The symbols of death and of man's desire,  
 The springs of change in the world are mine ;  
 The organs of birth and the circles of bones,  
 And the light loves carved on the temple stones.

*Sir Alfred Lyall.*

The face to right is in profile and depicts Siva who, according to Hindu rules, must always look eastwards towards the rising sun. The deva wears a small moustache. Between the brows is an oval protuberance indicative of the third eye destined to break forth in flame and destroy the earth. This additional organ of sight is known as Dryanachakshu or the Eye of Knowledge. Before the sanctuary was shorn of its splendours this third eye was doubtless painted in daily by the attendant priest. It is always represented as being vertical. Serpents twine about the figure of the god and do duty as hair. His mukuta or turban displays a human skull, a cobra, a mizanda leaf and a branch of bilva, the flowers of which are sacred to Siva.

Etymologically Siva signifies 'he of whom growth, increase and prosperity is.' He is now almost invariably represented by his symbol, the lingam, identical with the ichthyphallic emblem of the ancient Greeks and Egyptians. He is known by a thousand names. His crest is the new moon, and the trident is likewise one of his many signs. Parvati, the 'Mountain Born,' daughter of Himalaya, is his wife, and Nandi, the sacred bull, his vahana, or vehicle.

### VISHNU

The third figure of the Trimurti is Vishnu. He is portrayed in profile looking westwards, holding a lotus flower. Lakshmi, goddess of good fortune, is his consort, while Garuda, the kite, is his vahana.

To right and left of the recess are pilasters guarded by gigantic figures of darwara palakas, or temple gatekeepers. Each is accompanied by a pisacha, or demon dwarf, 7 feet high, wearing a tightly curled wig.

### THE GARBHA

North-west of the colossal bust, in the body of the temple, is a square shrine containing the chief object of veneration, namely, Siva's emblem. Known as the Garbha, or Lingam Shrine, the enclosure rather suggests a massive stone box pierced by four doorways. Each entrance is flanked by a pair of immensely tall darwara palakas. Flights of much worn steps lead up to the sanctum sanctorum, the floor of which is raised 3 feet above the level of the cave. Unfortunately the statues are much mutilated. The only one that is intact stands on the east side of the south door, and is curiously Egyptian in appearance. The same may be said of its seven companions, the breadth of whose shoulders and hair arrangement speak eloquently of the land of the Nile.

The interior of the sacellum is plain to bareness. An altar, 3 feet high and 9 feet 9 inches square, occupies the centre. On this stands the lingam, a rounded column cut from a stone of harder and closer grain than that characteristic of the remainder of the temple.

### ARDDHANARISHWARA

East of the Trimurti the southern wall reveals Siva in the rare form of Arddhanarishwara, the avatara in which the deva unites in himself the two sexes, appearing as half male and half female. The figure is 16 feet 9 inches high. The right portion of the body is that of a man and the left that of a woman. Every detail, no matter how minute, is carefully emphasized and made the most of, even down to the most insignificant article of dress. Siva rests his right hand on Nandi, here depicted as a wild bull of a species now almost extinct. All about crowd innumerable minor figures, each significant of its kind. Amid the wealth of sculpture Vishnu is present on the shoulders of Garuda, the kite. To right of Siva is Brahma seated on his lotus throne supported by the usual five wild geese, while Indra—chief of the old Vedic deities—holds the thunderbolt in his hand as he rides upon his elephant Arivati, from whose trunk flows the rain.

### SIVA AND PARVATI

The compartment west of the Trimurti introduces Siva with Parvati standing beside him on the left. The connection between this and the former sculpture is best explained by a quotation from the Linga Purana to the effect that Brahma commanded Arddhanarishwara: 'Divide thyself!' At the words a fair woman sprang forth, universal mother of all the fair women who have in turn peopled the three worlds. From the male came man. To quote further from the same

old authority on creation : 'She was entirely a female and he entirely a male.'

The figure of Siva is 16 feet high and that of Parvati 12 feet 4 inches. Surmounting the deva's turban is a small vessel or cup containing a three-headed female bust representing Parvati, Sarasvati and Lakshmi. In former ages, when the entire temple was habitually coated with fresh paint, the first-named goddess would have been coloured white, the second red and the third blue. The trio further represent the three sacred rivers, the Ganges, Jumna, and Sarasvati, fabled to join issue at Allahabad.

### **MARRIAGE OF SIVA AND PARVATI**

In a line with the Trimurti to west the southern wall is adorned with a spirited group representing the marriage of Siva and Parvati. The goddess is depicted in a typically bride-like attitude with modestly downcast eyes. She stands on the right of her husband that being the correct position of a Hindu wife on her wedding day. Immediately behind is her father, Himalaya, pushing her gently forward. Mena, her mother, is on the extreme right. The crouching figure to left of Siva is that of Brahma, who acted as priest on the auspicious occasion.

The figure of Parvati is 8 feet 6 inches high, and that of Siva 10 feet. The deva is depicted wearing the sacred cord over his left shoulder, while a nimbus or halo shows behind his towering turban.

### **WESTERN COURT**

Beyond the last-mentioned group to west is an open court lighted by a large cleft in the mountain, which admits a welcome view of blue sky and golden sunshine. To south lies a cistern fed by a spring of pure water. This tank is of artificial

formation and is cut out of the rock which curves in three graceful arches above it. Formerly it is said to have been of immense depth and to have extended into the unknown heart of the mountain. To north of the court was an entrance faced with pilasters and columns, but this has long since filled in. The western side is devoted to a chapel and garbha or lingam shrine approached by steps. At the northern end Siva is depicted seated on a lotus throne amid a group of figures. The usual darwara palakas stand sentinel at the doorway accompanied by dwarf attendants and flying cherubs. To south of the sanctum is another sculptured scene in which Siva appears with six arms and three eyes.

### BHAIRAVA

This remarkable carving appears on the northern wall of the great cave opposite the marriage of Siva and Parvati. Facsimiles of it are found at Elura and at Amboli. The subject represented is a human sacrifice. The central figure is 12 feet high and depicts Bhairava—'Horror'—an avatara of Rudra or Siva worshipped by the Marathas. A skull and cobra adorn the tall head-dress while the runda mala, or string of skulls, hangs from the left shoulder. The expression of the face is that of one driven mad with fury. Originally the figure possessed eight arms, most of which are now missing. Of those that remain the second right hand grasps a sword as though about to strike. The third left hand rings a bell and the third right hand used to clutch a human victim below whom the second left hand held a bowl to catch the blood as the death blow was dealt.

### MOUNT KAILASA

Approaching the east portico a fine group of carving is noted on the south wall. Siva and Parvati occupy the centre, seated on a raised platform supposed to represent Mount

Kailasa. A nurse stands behind the goddess balancing an infant on her left hip. The infant is Kartikeya, or Subramania, the War God, the younger of Siva and Parvati's two sons.

### RAVANA UNDER MOUNT KAILASA

Opposite, on the northern wall, Siva and Parvati are again portrayed seated on the sacred mountain. To the left is Ganesh, or Gannapatti, their elder son. The god of wisdom is at once recognizable by reason of his elephant head. Below the group Ravana, the demon king of Lanka, is seen supporting the Hindu Olympus on his ten heads. The legend here illustrated is to the effect that Ravana stole beneath the silver hill to carry it off to Ceylon. Feeling a swaying movement, Parvati drew Siva's attention to it, whereupon the deva pressed down his foot and pinned Ravana under Kailasa for ten thousand years.

### EAST WINGS

A flight of nine steps leads from the east side of the great cave to an open courtyard about 55 feet wide. In the centre is a circular platform, doubtless once occupied by a statue of Nandi, the sacred bull. The northern end served as a portico, but this has long since closed up. On the south side ten stone stairs lead up to a verandah guarded by two basalt lions discovered when the accumulated rubbish of centuries was cleared away. Beyond again is a pillared shrine roughly measuring 58 feet by 24 feet. At the back of this is the garbha, or lingam chapel, approached by steps and enclosed by a passage for the performance of pradakshima, a reverential mode of saluting by walking a stipulated number of times round a person or object, always taking care to keep the right side turned towards him or it. Siva's emblem stands on a low altar set in the middle of the sacellum, and is hewn out of the same hard stone as the principal lingam in the great cave.



To east and west stretch side chapels guarded by immense darawara palakas, the sentinel figure to left displaying fat cherubs flying above his head. The shrine on this side is 25 feet long and 11 feet wide. At the northern extremity is a boldly executed carving of Siva as Shalupani, or the Wielder of the Trident, between Vishnu on the left and Brahma on the right. The south end reveals Gannapatti, the elephant god, while ten colossal figures smeared with red paint stretch along the western wall.

Two pillars and a pair of pilasters mark the front of the opposite chapel on the east side, still held in much veneration because of a tradition that the waters of the Ganges flow miraculously through its rocky roof on the night of Shivaratri.

### **TANDAVA DANCE**

Returning to the great temple and approaching the northern portico, a carving on the west wall near the entrance shows Siva in lighter mood dancing the Tandava. Near him is his son, Ganesha. The elephant god still receives offerings from devotees who fain would smear him with gold leaf and red lead.

### **DHARMA RAJA**

The opposite sculpture to east has provided antiquarians with much controversial fare of a perplexing nature, thanks to the unaccountable resemblance to Buddha borne by the principal figure in the curious group. The scene is laid in the Himalayas and depicts Dharma Raja or Siva sitting cross-legged in the act of doing penance after the death of Sati, his first wife. Celestial choristers float above the deva, on whose left appear three ascetics gathered near a banana tree. One of the holy men holds a rosary of rudraksha berries.

## AFTERNOON

*Drive out to Colaba. Visit the Afghan Memorial Church.*

### COLABA

Colaba occupies the southern extremity of Bombay. In the far away days when the Kolis, the earliest known inhabitants of the islands, made it their home it was divided in two by the sea. The smaller half bore the title of Al'Oman's Isle, or the Island of Deep Sea Fishermen. With time and the advent of the English this changed into Old Woman's Island. Since the two have been welded together by a causeway they have borne the one name of Colaba, derived from the Kolis who first dwelt there.

In common with the sister islands Colaba has had its share of wars alarms. Sambhaji Angria landed a force in 1750 and would have seized the place but for the prompt arrival of the Company's armed vessels. That it was early utilized as a cantonment is proved by Milburn's reference to it. 'On this island' he writes, 'are barracks for the military, and occasionally a camp is formed here, being esteemed a healthy situation. It has many delightful villas scattered about.'

Special interest attaches to the Cotton Green removed from old Bombay Green to Colaba in 1844. Some conception of the business transacted may be gleaned by remembering that after New Orleans Bombay is the greatest cotton port in the world. The Green covers a square about a mile and a half each way traversed by Colaba Causeway. It is split up into jathas or lots rented by native dealers, where it is stacked in bales exactly as it arrived from up country. Business begins soon after mid-day, when buyer and seller meet at the Cotton Exchange, whence they proceed to the jathas. The season

opens in November and continues until June. March, April and May are the busiest months.

Sassoon's Dock in Middle Colaba is deserving of note as having been the first wet dock constructed in Bombay.

### **AFGHAN MEMORIAL CHURCH**

Better known as the Afghan Memorial Church than by its name of St. John the Evangelist, the beautiful Church in Colaba is reputed the handsomest in Western India. The foundation stone was laid in December 1847, by Sir George Clerk, Governor of Bombay. Bishop Harding performed the consecration ceremony in January of the following year. The style of the building is Early English. It was erected by public subscription, aided by Government, to the memory of officers, non-commissioned officers and men who fell in the campaigns of Scinde and Afghanistan, 1838-1843.

A peculiar feature is the altar, which stands at the west end as in the early Church at Antioch and in St. Peters, Rome. The metal screen is worthy of special notice, as are the stained glass windows. The prayer desk is inscribed: — 'Erected by the officers of His Majesty's 28th Regiment on leaving the country, in memory of their brother officers who died since the regiment landed in India A.D. 1857.' The proposal to build the Church originated with the Rev. George Pigott, Chaplain with the Bombay Column, under General Keane, in the advance upon Kabul, in 1838. In 1842 Pigott was appointed chaplain of Colaba, when he immediately began to prosecute his plan. The design was drawn by H. Conybeare, son of the Archdeacon of Landaff. Sir G. Russel Clerk laid the foundation stone on December 4, 1847. The guard of honour was furnished by the 28th Regiment. When the walls were 15 feet high Pigott died at sea in February 1850. He is commemorated by a

floor tablet in front of the altar. Eight years later the Church was consecrated by Bishop Harding of Bombay, when the 28th Regiment again provided the guard of honour. The Rev. Maule described it as :—‘ A Church essentially military in its associations, a national monument to thousands of brave men who have died in their country's cause.’

Beyond the Church are the barracks and parade ground. To left of the road lies the Observatory, erected in 1826. An old burial ground, opened in 1816 and closed in 1872, occupies the southern point of Colaba. Here lie buried many officers of the Royal Navy, Royal Indian Marine and merchant service, as well as numerous victims of shipwreck. One tomb contains a hundred and eighty-four bodies drowned when the *Castlereagh* foundered. This part of the coast has always been particularly perilous. In January 1696 the Vice-Admiral of the Portuguese fleet was wrecked in the flagship off the neighbouring reef. Entrance to the cemetery is barred by a sentry on guard before the gate. Important fortifications lie a little farther on, hence the precaution.

## THE LIGHTHOUSE

About a mile from there Prong's Lighthouse sheds its warning ray a distance of eighteen miles. It stands on a particularly dangerous reef and is one of the largest buildings of its kind in existence. The cost of erection was £60,000. Tickets of admission are obtained from the Port Officer. The necessity for a lighthouse at Colaba was pointed out in 1768, and an estimate of Rs. 4,000 to Rs. 5,000 submitted for building the same. The annual cost of lighting amounted to Rs. 629. The Court of Directors ordered that the expense should be borne by the shipping, consequently Rs. 2 was charged for every 100 tons. In 1780 this was raised to Rs. 10 per 100 tons.

## OTHER PLACES OF INTEREST

### THE MINT

There are several very interesting features about Bombay Mint which render it well worthy of a visit. It stands behind the Town Hall and next to Bombay Castle on 49,000 square yards of reclaimed ground. Erected by the East India Company in 1829 at a cost of thirty-six lakhs, it consists of a quadrangular building two storeys high at its western side. The upper floor contains the offices of the Mint and Assay Masters, the Bullion Department being situated below. The Standard Melting Room lies to north, while the various Coining Departments and Engine Rooms occupy the south and east sides.

Seven and a half lakhs can be turned out daily. If necessary this amount can be doubled by working overtime. In 1907 the first one anna nickel bit was coined in the Bombay Mint, issues being made in August of the same year. The nickel mint can produce two lakhs of pieces per diem. The workmen are chiefly Indians supervised by Europeans under the control of the Mint Master, an officer belonging to the Royal Engineers, who is directly responsible to the Indian Government.

Although the present Mint has been established a little under a century, Bombay possessed one as long ago as 1670.

When the Honourable Company first began to trade in the East Indies public indignation ran high in England, owing to a notion that the country was being denuded of treasure to purchase oriental luxuries. At that epoch the only foreign

money current in Britain took the form of Spanish rials. The Charter of 1609 authorized the Company to export foreign silver in coin, or bullion, to the value of £30,000 each voyage. Soon, however, it was discovered that a far greater profit was obtained by sending out gold, more especially to the Coromandel Coast. As a result all varieties of gold coins were collected for the purpose, including Dutch riders, double Alberts, German gold dollars and even English gold pieces. These were forwarded under a charter from Charles I dated November 19, 1631, which stipulated that the Company might 'buy and take up, within our realm of England, and the dominions of the same, the sum of thirty thousand pounds in foreign gold for export to the East Indies and Persia.'

No sooner had the Honourable Company acquired the lease of Bombay than the Directors wrote out authorizing the establishment of a Mint. The coins struck were not to resemble those of the King, and were only intended for circulation within the Company's settlements. Under Portuguese domination current money consisted of the Moghul rupee, the ancient larin of the West Coast, the Xeraphin and bazarucco. The last was a tin, or lead coin struck at Goa. It was extensively patronized and very popular. The Court of Directors desired to establish the superior prestige of the Company, at Bombay, by first coining only gold and silver. To this Aungier and his Council replied stating that a beginning had 'already been made with copper and tin, such coin being essential for their needs in the island, especially as an urgent demand from Surat had compelled them to send the bulk of their treasure thither. It was determined that gold and silver coins struck in Bombay should correspond with the Surat rupee as regards weight and quality. The stamp decided upon bore the Company's Arms on the face, and the inscription 'Honorabilis Societas Anglicana Indiarum Orientalium.'

The reverse displayed a circle, inside which was the legend 'Moneta Bombayae Anglicani Regininis Anno Septimis,' in allusion to it being the seventh year of the cession of Bombay to the British crown (1672). Outside the circle were the words 'A Deo Pax et Incrementum.' Gold coins were styled Carolinas, silver, Anglinas, copper, copperoons while tin pieces were known as tinnys. Eleven tinnys made a copperoon, and forty-eight copperoons went to an Anglina, or Bombay rupee. Such was the current rate at first between the rupee, pice and bujereck. In 1677 a rupee was struck at Bombay, which bore the royal arms of England and the inscription 'by authority of Charles II.' A year earlier Mr. Smith had been appointed Assay Master at £60 per annum. Soon the Court of Directors ordered all payments in the island to be made in rupees. In 1733 all rupees, other than those struck at Bombay and Surat, were declared illegal. Persons possessing them were required to hand them into the Mint on pain of forfeiture. As at Fort St. George, Madras, a Member of Council was directed to regularly 'draw Rs. 5 promiscuously out of each month's coinage, and seal them up immediately with his own seal, which must be transmitted to us in the packet.' Despite these precautions considerable cheating went on. To prevent it a lock was commanded to be put on the Mint. One key was to be kept by the Mint Master and a second by the English Manager. All bullion was to be nightly deposited in the Castle enclosure, together with the chopps or stamps.

Owing to scarcity of silver in 1765 a gold rupee, valued at fifteen silver rupees, was struck. To meet the expense entailed by the fortifications of the city it was decided to issue paper money, in 1771. A dearth of silver continued hence small gold coins, to the value of one silver rupee, were struck up to 1778, when they were withdrawn from circulation in Bombay and shipped to China.

At first the Company allowed their servants to remit money to England at the rate of 2s. 6d. the rupee. For all others the exchange stood at 2s. 4d. In 1768 the Bombay rupee was rated at 2s. 2d. the Fort St. George pagoda at 7s. 3d. and the Bengal rupee at 2s.

### BOMBAY CASTLE

Hidden away behind the Town Hall and Mint, the existence of Bombay's most historical building is unknown to many, and a matter of indifference to most. Nevertheless the old Castle, erected by the Portuguese and strengthened and further fortified by their English successors, still commands the eastern shore of the island. Despite time and many changes it maintains its warlike traditions.

Originally known as the Quinta or Manor House, it was the residence of Garcia da Orta, the celebrated physician and botanist, who, in 1538, took over Bombay on lease at an annual quit rent of £85. From that time until the Portuguese ceded the islands it boasted the fairest garden in all India. No traces of this pleasance now exist. Passing the sentry on guard at the gateway, a large courtyard is entered enclosed by formidable walls, east of which the sea dashes. On the northern side a passage leads through to an inner court wherein stands Bombay Castle, a square, yellow building of small architectural pretensions, having obviously been planned with a view to use rather than ornament. Winding stone stairs mount upwards to the surrounding battlements, south-east of which rise a flagstaff and a slender grey tower roofed with timber. This is the old Portuguese keep. The first English to enter the Castle did so in war-like guise, in other words they were raiders pure and simple. In the earlier half of the seventeenth century the Dutch and English maintained vessels off the Malabar Coast to harry Portuguese commerce, and descend



upon their various settlements. In the autumn of 1626 the Company's ship *Discovery* joined the men of Holland in attacking the little Portuguese town of Bombay, on October 14. The log of David Davis contains a map of the harbour and the following entry: 'The fifteenth all our men embarked aboard the ships, being Sunday in the evening, and left the Great House, which was both a warehouse, a friary and a fort, all a fire burning, with many other good houses, together with two new frigates not yet from the stocks. But they had carried away all their treasure, for all were runned away before our men landed.'

At the time of its cession to Charles II the island was in possession of a widow, Donna Ignez de Miranda, popularly styled La Senhora da Ilha. The agreement, whereby Bombay was ultimately relinquished to Humphrey Cooke, contained this clause concerning the Castle: 'That although the manor right of the Lady, the proprietrix of Bombay, is taken away from her estates if she lives in the island, these are not to be intermeddled with, or taken away from her unless it be of her free will, she being a woman of quality, they are necessary for her maintenance. But after death, and her heirs succeed to those estates, the English gentlemen may, if they choose, take them, paying for the same their just value. And should the English gentlemen now wish to take her houses to build forts therewith, they shall immediately pay her their just value.'

Naturally the first care of the British was to put the place in a state of defence. So well did Aungier labour to this end that when the Dutch fleet hoped to surprise it, in 1673, the Admiral found the fortifications so far advanced as to defy attack. By that time bastions had been constructed and 120 pieces of ordnance mounted, in addition to sixty field pieces on carriages. The garrison included 300 English, 400 Topasses.

500 well-armed Militia, and 300 Bhandaris provided with clubs, and a miscellaneous assortment of weapons.

The Court of Directors took a keen interest in the defences of Bombay. One of their early despatches ran: 'The truth is it is improvident for the Government of so populous an island to be at any time unprovided with half a year's store of rice, or paddy for all the inhabitants, or to attempt any considerable thing till their fortifications are all firm and fixed, their companies of soldiers full and kept to strict order and discipline, and the guards exactly set and relieved every day as if an enemy were in port. This we require of our Deputy Governor to be constantly performed. When your enemies see you in such a posture, they will not be so apt to affront you as they have been. . . . We are resolved, so far as in us lies, to make Bombay impregnable.'

### **BOMBAY SEIZED**

A mutiny occurred in December 1683. Disgusted by the parsimonious methods of the Company, Captain Keigwan, who commanded the garrison, ordered his men to seize Mr. Ward, the Deputy Governor, and certain Members of Council. This done he assembled the troops and Militia, and read a proclamation annulling the Company's authority and declaring the island under the King's protection. The garrison consisted of 150 Europeans and 200 Topasses. These unanimously elected Keigwan Governor. He remained in power until the following November. Meanwhile the Company appealed to the King, who responded by issuing a Sign Manual to Captain Keigwan, and those under him, to relinquish the island to the Council of Surat. Simultaneously President Child was appointed Captain General and Admiral of the Company's land and sea forces. Sir Thomas Grantham was made Vice-Admiral. The Senior Commander of the Company's ships was promoted

Rear Admiral. He was instructed to assemble the fleet at Surat, from which place the seat of Government was to be transferred to Bombay.

Sir Thomas Grantham proceeded to Bombay, where he arrived on November 10, 1684. Landing alone he interviewed Keigwan, who agreed to deliver over the citadel to him as a King's Officer, on the 12th, on condition that he was guaranteed a free pardon for himself and his supporters. This formality was accomplished on the 19th. No sooner had the delivery been made to him than Grantham transferred Bombay, in the King's name, to Doctor St. John, the King's Judge, who, in turn, made it over to Mr. Zinzan, the Company's Deputy Governor, pending the arrival of the President from Surat. As a precautionary measure the two company's of Bombay Infantry were increased to three, and commissions given to officers who had proved their fidelity during Keigwan's revolution.

In the following year the President-Governor, and second of Bombay were notified that the military honours recently conferred upon them were not to imply an increase of pay. The title of General ceased with Aislabie, in 1715, who was the last Governor so styled.

The castle was again seriously menaced in 1689, when a rupture, with the Moghul authorities at Surat, led Bombay vessels to capture several ships laden with stores for the Moghul garrison at Danda Rajpuri. At this the Moghul Admiral, Sidi Yakub, sent word that unless his fleet were released he would proceed to Bombay. He was as good as his word. At midnight, on February 14, he landed at Sowri with 20,000 men. The great gun, on the redoubt there, fired the alarm. Bombay Castle responded with three cannon. Such terror was excited by the sound that European ladies, and others sprang from their beds half-naked, and, without

waiting to clothe themselves, hastened, with their children, to the citadel. Here, however, they were kept outside the walls till daylight. In the morning Sidi Yakub marched to Mazgaon and occupied the small fort. Although defended by fourteen guns, and containing ten chests of treasure, the garrison had abandoned it in a panic. Here, the Mughul Admiral hoisted his flag, and made his head-quarters. 'Ere long he was in possession of all Bombay with the exception of the castle, and about half a mile to south of it. He constructed a battery on Dongri Hill and mounted four great guns in front of the Custom House. Not content with these measures he erected batteries within 200 paces of the citadel. The siege lasted from April until September. Provisions ran short, and the garrison were reduced to sore straits by the time that a firman was received from the Moghul Emperor Aurangzeb, confirming the English in their possessions and authorizing the investing fleet to withdraw. This the Sidi was in no haste to do. Despite imperial commands he lingered at Bombay until June 8, 1690. Prior to departing he made a bonfire of Mazgaon Fort. A pestilence followed which, to quote a contemporary writer 'in four months destroyed more men than the war had done.' As a result the garrison were reduced to thirty-five English.

Work upon the castle seems to have been continuous. In 1677 the Bombay Council reported: 'We are putting up our fourth, last and best bastion. It is very difficult being so far in the sea. Then we want only finishing the ditch, and a ravelin with two horns, which will make the fort one of the strongest in India.' A little later they wrote again: 'We are putting our Fort in the best posture of defence possible, in case of accident, fitting all our guns with shot and cartridges, ready filling our granados, making 300 powder shots and stink pots that we may not be taken unprovided.'

Groese described it in 1750. 'The fortified house (the castle) built on the site of the residence of the Portuguese Governor, ought to have been taken down and rebuilt at Mendham's Point. It is well built with regular gradients of strong hard stone.' A much fuller account comes from the pen of Captain de Funck, appointed Chief Engineer in 1753: 'Bombay Castle is situated on low ground, about the middle of the town, close to a bed of rocks in the sea opposite the harbour, and is formed in the figure of a trapezoid, the four bastions being styled the Flag, Brab-tree, Tank and Cavalier Bastions. These bastions are joined by curtains. Round the polygon interior of the Castle are some buildings for lodging, a small Council Room and Public Offices of the Accountant, Secretary, Stores and Treasury. Under the Fort wall are powder magazines and storehouses. A great water reservoir lies over the Tank Bastion. Between the Castle on this side, and the half bastion Royal are three batteries, the Royal, Marine Pier and Bandar Pier. These command the harbour.' De Funck pronounced the castle weak, with a surrounding parapet only three feet thick. The best portion was monopolized by the Governor, who resided in a high house overtopping the fortifications. De Funck advocated the removal of the upper storeys, when the remainder could be rendered bomb proof. This was eventually done, but it meant providing another residence for the Governor, which clashed with the wishes of the Directors, who had written on the subject, in July 1738: 'We are informed our Fort and Castle at Bombay is now in a manner forsaken by our Governor. This is not right. We apprehended it to be the most defensible place on our island remembering how, in former years, the Castle held out, when all the rest of the island was taken. We therefore order that the Fort be the residence of the Governor, who ought never to be out of it, and that it be kept in good repair.'

Here then the Governor resided until de Funck pulled down his Castle in 1755. The same hospitable roof sheltered the Second in Council, factors, writers and offices of various kinds, likewise the general table, where all messed together.

### DAILY ROUTINE

Although the early Presidents and Governors of Bombay exercised considerable military and political powers, directed wars and concluded treaties, their main end and object in life was to trade. All other questions were mere side issues to be disposed of as rapidly, and as inexpensively as possible. On ordinary occasions the Governor's duties were those of a merchant. He kept a keen watch on the markets, particularly upon the prices of calico and of pepper, haggled with Indian and other dealers, in the Council Chamber regarding the disposal of European Cargoes, and bargained shrewdly over guinea stuffs, percales, chintz, and other cloths designated by terms now obsolete and forgotten. Official communications between the Governor of Bombay and the President of Surat teem with enquiries as to supplies of nutmegs, cloves, mace, sword blades and similar burning questions. His Honour of Bombay evinced the liveliest curiosity as to what His Worship of Surat could inform him concerning the demand for large Broach, blue Brodera and Cambay muslins. He was much exercised over the diminished supply of elephants teeth, and wished to be furnished with chintz having large many coloured nose-gays for design, and other lengths whereon stripes and small posies figured. At the same time he pointed out that he, and the Honourable Members of Council had measured a number of bales, recently received, and found all short and of inferior quality. Having despatched these important advices the Governor and Council would order the public crier to announce a heterogenous assortment of wares to be put up to

auction, or a 'sale by candle,' for ready money, whereafter successful bidders would remove their purchases, at their own risk. Not only the President and chief merchants, but even, the last joined writer engaged in private trade. They were particularly partial to dealing in diamonds.

## PAY

The Governor received an annual salary of £300. The Deputy Governor, who was also accountant, was paid £100. He got an additional hundred when he combined these functions with that of Chief Justice. The Third in Council was allowed £70, the fourth and the fifth £50 each, and the sixth, seventh and eighth, £40 a piece. The Minister's stipend was £50. If deserving he was awarded an additional £50 gratuity. A Physician and two Surgeons each received £36 a year. Military Officers were not regarded as the Company's Covenanted servants. They received their pay half annually and were granted ration allowance and free charges.

In May 1757 the Court of Directors wrote :

'Our President's emoluments are large and infinitely superior to those of Bengal, or Madras. The appointment, for his table and servants, of Rs. 912 a month and Rs. 2,400 a year for festivals is a noble establishment. It ought to support our Governors without loading us with the least additional expense. Whenever this allowance has been exceeded, as in the case of Mr. Horne, we have ordered a refund.'

In 1785 a change was effected in the Bombay Council, which thence forwarded consisted of the Governor, Commander-in-Chief and two other members. The Governor's salary was increased to Rs. 90,000 a year. The Commander-in-Chief, as second in Council, received Rs. 36,000. The third was allotted Rs. 34,000, and the fourth Rs. 32,000.

From then on the Governor and Council were prohibited from indulging in private trade. At the same time the Board of Council, Military Board, Board of Revenue and Board of trade were formed. The Governor protested vehemently against the new scheme declaring that he had gained twice as much under the old. At this objection his salary was raised to Rs. 1,00,000.

### **SALUTES**

Salutes were fired from the Flag staff Bastion until 1759, when a battery of small guns was expressly erected between the Bandar and Fort. Those were noisy days, and the cannon were constantly thundering forth. As a measure of economy the Court issued an order in 1725, whereby ships were limited to saluting the Fort with nine guns, which salute was to be returned in kind. On first landing, and again on departure the Captain of a vessel was entitled to nine guns. When he had occasion to come ashore at other times he was only permitted seven guns. Instructions were also forwarded to curtail the lavish expenditure of powder usual at funerals and festivals.

### **THE HARBOUR**

The harbour consists of a deep arm of the sea between Bombay and the mainland. It is eleven miles long, and from four to six miles wide. The approach is illuminated by light-houses on Kenery Island, some eleven miles south of the southerly point of Bombay, and on Prong's Reef, about a mile south-west of the same point. Both lighthouses flash every ten seconds and are visible for a distance of eighteen miles. The harbour is fairly well protected from monsoon winds, which accounts for it having been a favourite port of refuge



with the Moghul fleet. The extreme range of tide is 18 feet 7 inches.

The docks lie on the west side of the harbour. In addition there are numerous basins and banders for the use of country traffic. Everything connected therewith is administered by the Port Trust established in 1873. This body controls lighting, pilotage, docks, banders and landed estate. The chief imports are cotton, piece goods, metals, machinery, railway plant, kerosene oil, rice, sugar and timber. Exports principally consist of coal, cotton, grain, oil, seeds, hides, piece goods, twist, yarn and manganese ore.

## DOCKS

Bombay could only boast one closed dock prior to 1880. That was the Sassoon Dock constructed in 1870 by Messrs. D. Sassoon & Co. Ten years later the newly formed Port Trust opened Prince's Dock, the foundation stone of which had been laid in 1875 by King Edward VII, who was then Prince of Wales. This is fitted with hydraulic cranes, and has 438,121 square feet of shedding and wharves which extend 6,910 feet.

The Victoria Dock was completed by 1888. In November 1905, King George V, laid the foundation stone of Alexandra Dock, opened by Lord Hardinge, Governor-General of India, in March 1914. The wall, on the west side of the dock, extends 1,500 feet and forms a mole. At the southern end is a railway station. Here steamers lie along side, whereas, formerly, passengers were landed in launches.

The Port Trust owns two dry docks, namely, the Mervether opened, in 1891, to north-west of Prince's Dock, and the Hughes, at the southern extremity of Alexandra Dock.

## OLD DOCKS

Shipbuilding was carried on in Bombay by the Portuguese. David Davis, of the *Discovery* testifies to having set fire to 'two new frigates not yet from the stocks,' during the Anglo-Dutch raid upon the island in October 1626. A year after the Company became possessed of it they despatched Warwick Pett, a member of the famous family of shipbuilders, to Bombay to construct a couple of vessels. At the same time the Bombay Council urged upon the Directors the necessity for docks particularly as they desired their city to become a port of call. In 1677 they wrote complaining of the order prohibiting the Company's merchantmen from touching at Bombay. At last, in 1683, the Company's ships were ordered to put in at that port. As a result a Court of Admiralty was established on the island a year afterwards. A little later the Council wrote suggesting that, as many of the Company's vessels came out laden with ballast, it would be more profitable if they carried 'ten or twenty chaldron of sea coal for the smiths forge,' which depended upon charcoal that 'burnt away like dirt.' In April 1711 the Bombay Council renewed their request for docks, which they desired capable of accommodating two vessels. They put forward the same demand in January 1749, stating that a dry dock, large enough to accommodate a ship of fifty guns, could be constructed for Rs. 5,000. This expenditure was sanctioned. Timber for gates was indented for from Telli-cherry, and the dock was ready in 1750. Each vessel using it was required to pay Rs. 150. Four years later it was converted into a double dock.

When, in 1756, Admiral Watson was asked to command a naval expedition against Gheria, the pirate stronghold of

Talaji Angria, he only consented upon condition that the Bombay Government would furnish sufficient ammunition, and undertake to repair such damages as his ships sustained. Clive's offer to lead the land forces, participating in the attack, was accepted. The result was a powerful blow to piracy. Clive took possession of Gheria Fort, on February 14, while Watson burnt Angria's entire fleet. The news of the victory caused great joy in Bombay, where the guns of the Castle fired twenty-one rounds and the garrison discharged three volleys on the parade. Emboldened by this success a third dock was proposed in 1760. Upon the recommendation of the Marine Superintendent docks were constructed at Mazgaon at a cost of Rs. 10,025 and finished by 1774. Store houses were erected and the original dock duty doubled. In 1781 His Majesty's squadron was repaired at Bombay. Rear Admiral Sir Edward Hughes warmly acknowledged the invaluable assistance afforded by the docks at a critical moment in history, and requested that two more, of greater depth, might be put in hand. Writing in 1808 Milburn says: 'The dockyard is large and well contrived, having naval stores of all kinds deposited in warehouses, together with large quantities of timber for repairing and building ships, and forges for all kinds of smiths' work. The dry dock has scarce its equal for size and convenience. It has three divisions and three pairs of strong gates. Near the dock is a place to heave down several ships at once, which is done well and with great expedition. Here is also a rope walk, which for length, situation and convenience equals any in England, that in the King's yard at Portsmouth only excepted, and like that it has a covering to protect the workmen. Cables and all sorts of lesser cordage, both of hemp and coir, are manufactured here.' The site of the Rope Walk is now Rampart Row West.

## SHIPBUILDING

The name of the Parsis will be for ever associated with the maritime interests of Bombay. As far back as 1735 Mr. Dudley and Lavji Nasarvanji, the famous Parsi shipbuilder, or Wadia from Surat, started a shipbuilding yard in Bombay. At that date the dry dock was a mud basin, in and out of which the tide flowed without let or hindrance. This was subsequently converted into the Upper, or Old Bombay Dock, 209 feet long 47 feet wide and 15 feet deep. A second was constructed in line with it. Admiral Cornish sent a despatch from Trincomalee urging the completion of an outer dock before the return of the squadron in 1762. This was the Middle Old Bombay Dock. Its dimensions are given as 183 feet by 51 feet with a depth of 20 feet. The third was the Lower Old Bombay Dock. Of these Niebuhr wrote in 1763 : ' Among the large number of good arrangements made by the English in Bombay for trade, and shipping the dock is much the most considerable and important. The work is partly rock cut, partly cut stone. Two ships can be careened at a time and a third basin is preparing. The work though costly brings a considerable return. Strangers pay very dear for liberty to careen in these basins.'

In 1805 Admiral Pellew decided that fresh docks should be made parallel with the three older ones. The work was entrusted to Lieutenant Crozier of the Engineers, who did it so badly that he was removed, and the task transferred to Captain Cowper. The latter constructed docks as solid as though hewn out of the rock itself. The first was completed in 1807, and named after the Governor, Mr. Jonathan Duncan. The lower Duncan Dock was ready by 1810. In 1875 King Edward VII visited Bombay as Prince of Wales, and laid the first stone of Prince's Dock. Since then the Victoria and Alexandra

Docks have been constructed and numerous improvements and changes effected. The excavations, in connection with Prince's Dock, brought to light a submerged forest at a depth of 32 feet. The trees were from 10 to 20 feet long and the wood was red and very hard.

### APOLLO BANDAR

Appropriately enough this is the site selected for the famous Gate of India. In 1819 the Wellington Pier, or Apollo Bandar was extended and adapted for passenger traffic. Mrs. Postans writes: 'On landing at either the new Apollo, or Custom House bandars, hamals, bearing palanquins rich in green paint and silken curtains, entreat the custom of new arrivals.' Subsequently Ballard Pier was the ordinary point of arrival and departure, Apollo Bandar being reserved for the reception of great personages. Now up-to-date methods have been adopted and the traveller embarks and disembarks at Alexandra Docks.

### WELLINGTON'S HOUSE

Colonel Arthur Wellesley, afterwards the celebrated Duke of Wellington, arrived at Bombay in 1801, to take part in the expedition to Egypt. When about to embark he fell ill with fever, which was just as well for the vessel foundered, and all on board were lost. He remained at Bombay until the following year. His house is described as follows: 'It is a mere hut of a place, such as a subaltern of the Bombay Army would perhaps turn up his nose at, and think only fit for servants, or a stable. It is situated between the road and the sea, at the curve of Back Bay towards Malabar Hill, close to where the road from Bycullah turns into Breach Road from the Fort.'

## MAHIM

Now chiefly famous because of the tomb of Sheik Makhtum Ali Paru, which renders it one of the most celebrated places of Muhammadan pilgrimage in Western India, the ancient city of Mahim lies ten miles outside Bombay, whence it is quickly reached by train from either Colaba or Church Gate stations. Particular interest attaches to it as having been the first capital of a dynasty to be established in the islands.

Mahim, or Mahikavati as it was called, was founded in the thirteenth century by King Bhimdev, prior to whose advent it was known as Newale or Baradbet, the Deserted Island. This monarch, who had established himself as ruler of the North Konkan, elected to make the island his headquarters. As he was accompanied by a large family and a numerous retinue, who had followed him from Gujarat, a fair and prosperous city soon sprang up amid the dense forest of coconut palms. The new metropolis was colonized by Prabhus Bhandaris, Palshika, Brahmans, and others. A splendid temple to Prabhavati, patron deity of King Bhimdev's line, was the chief place of worship.

During the fourteenth century the city was attacked by Muhammadans. At the time King Nagardev—a second son of Bhimdev's—was absent defending another part of his territory. His queen, however, offered an heroic resistance. The royal lady was slain and the capital stormed. Shortly afterwards a Muhammadan garrison was stationed there by order of Mubarak, Emperor of Delhi. A century later the district passed under the sway of the Gujarat kings, whose headquarters were at Ahmedabad. Shortly afterwards it was the scene of a terrible battle between the forces of Ahmed Bahman, Sultan of the Deccan, and Jafar Khan, a Gujarati

prince. The latter was assisted by a fleet of seventeen warships, and was ultimately victorious.

It was at Mahim that the Portuguese first landed on January 21, 1509. Their object was merely to obtain wood and water, but the inhabitants fled terror-stricken at their approach, leaving the fort to fall into their hands.

Now the once powerful capital is chiefly visited by large numbers of Mussulman pilgrims, who come from far and near to pray at the famous shrine of Makhtum Fakih Ali Paru, a saint of Arab origin, born at Mahim in the fourteenth century. His tomb is credited with the virtue of working miraculous cures in cases of spirit possession.

A good road leads from the railway station, where comfortable and brilliantly painted bullock tongas await the arrival of trains. The first object of interest reached is the Church of San Miguel in Upper Mahim, at the north-eastern end of Lady Jamsetjee Road. This stands on the site of one of the earliest churches built by the Portuguese in 1534. A school is attached to the sacred edifice, and seems well attended.

Slightly farther on Mahim Fort occupies a prominent position on the seashore. Part of the court and massive battlements are all that remain of the once formidable stronghold which Hindu, Muhammadan and Christian have stormed in turn. A good view is obtained from the ramparts which command one side of the bay, while on the other stand the ruins of Pandra Fort.

The famous shrine lies on the eastern side of Mahim, and contains the tomb of Makhtum Ali Paru, a remarkable man, distinguished alike for learning and piety, who died in 1431 at the age of fifty-nine, when the mosque and mausoleum were, at once erected.

Entrance to the shrine is through a triple stone gateway painted emerald green and white, surmounted by a Naubat

Khana, where at dawn, and again at sunset, musicians sound kettle-drums and other instruments in honour of the dead. The halt, the maimed, and the blind line the approach in wait for alms. Within is a paved courtyard filled with a picturesque crowd of pilgrims, habitues, loiterers, priests, women, children and babies. These press around the mausoleum, a green and white building crowned by a large central dome, resplendent with glittering gilt ornaments, and four smaller domes at the corners. Marble steps lead up to the shrine, wherein stand two marble cenotaphs, those of the saint and of his mother. Each is draped with a silken pall strewn with heavily perfumed flowers. Crystal chandeliers and multi-coloured glass globes hang from the gilt ceiling, while the encircling verandah shows a brilliant dado of glazed emerald tiles.

To north of the mausoleum is the mosque, a square edifice also coloured green and white, surmounted by four slender minars, and entered by a square porch. The white-washed interior is bare save for texts from the Koran boldly inscribed in black letters round the top of the walls. Two scarlet flags, emblazoned with a white crescent and star, float above the sanctuary. North again is a Tank, from the northern wall of which steps run down to an ancient well of Hindu origin.

In close proximity to the shrine are a number of graves. The place is known as Ganj-i-Shahidan, or Catacomb of Martyrs. Some years ago a portion of the cemetery was washed away, and large numbers of bodies brought to view interred in layers. These were the warriors who fell in the terrible fifteenth century battle for supremacy between the forces of the Sultan of the Deccan and the King of Gujarat.

After visiting the shrine it is interesting to drive through the neighbouring bazaar, with its numerous goldsmiths' shops stocked with a handsome and varied assortment of typically Indian jewellery. Finally the bullock tonga emerges into Lady



Jamsetjee Road. To right lies a Catholic Church, with adjacent school and cemetery. To left, as the tonga turns in the direction of the railway station, stands a Hindu temple, its facade adorned with a clock and figure of Garuda, the kite god.

### BANDRA

This one time famous Portuguese settlement lies a little beyond Mahim. It is twelve miles from Bombay, and can be reached by train from Colaba or Church gate stations. It is a favourite residential quarter with Europeans, hence the numerous handsome bungalows built upon Pali Hill.

The best way to see the place is to hire a tonga at the station and proceed to drive round Pali Hill, picturesquely grown with coconut palms. On the farther side of the eminence stands an old Portuguese church, the steep approach marked by tall white crosses representing the fourteen stages of the Cross.

In the heart of the town, near the seashore, is the Church of Saint Andrew's, erected in 1570 by the Jesuits. The interior of the sacred edifice, and the graveyard, are literally paved with flat memorial tablets inscribed with Portuguese names, now, however, barely legible. From the Church, Bykamjee Jeejeebhoy Road runs along the beach to a turnstile whence a path leads to Bandra Fort, erected by the Portuguese in 1640. Little of the stronghold survives but a bastion and part of the sea wall at the foot of the cliff. Up above are other remains. These serve as the foundations of a yellow building conspicuous for a low tower. This a Parsi sanatorium. High against the sky-line show the twin spires of St. Mary's Cathedral. Further relics of Portuguese times consist of curious old stone crosses dotted all over the neighbourhood.

In close proximity to the station are large slaughter-houses, which provide Bombay with meat.

## VEHAR LAKE

The nearest station to Vihar Lake is at Andheri, fifty miles from Church Gate, Bombay. Plenty of tongas are always available. A charming drive of six miles along a picturesque road ends at the lake whence Bombay derives its principal water supply. The scenery is extremely pretty, and the spot an ideal one for picnics. The lake is very irregular in shape. Its deeply indented banks display a great variety of vegetation, amid which the tall, graceful trunks of coconut palms rise conspicuously. On the north side stretches a ridge of hills. To west a little island lies mirrored in the placid waters opposite a primitive landing stage, where a couple of boats are moored near a small dak bungalow owned by the Bombay Municipality. On the south bank a pretty white pavilion conceals the presence of machinery. Nothing disturbs the all prevailing tranquillity excepting the occasional splash of a fish or the call of a bird.

At the south-west corner a low, square monument attracts the eye. A marble tablet on its western face reads :

‘ Captain James Henry Graham Crawford, of the Bombay Engineers, was the author of the Vihar Water Works scheme. His plans were afterwards developed and worked out by Lieutenant Alfred de Lisle, of the same Corps, and Mr. Henry Conybeare, C.E. The work was begun in 1856, and finished in March, 1860, Mr. Walker, C.E., being the engineer-in-charge, and Messrs. Brayson & Champney the contractors. The total original cost was Rs. 56,00,000, which was borne at first by the Government of Bombay, and afterwards by the Bombay Municipality, by whom this stone has been set up to record the services of Captain Crawford and of those who carried out his project.’

On the other three sides of the monument the inscription is repeated in Urdu, Gujarati and Marathi.

## KENERY CAVES

Hewn out of the face of one of the highest hills in Salsette, the Kenery Caves lie between Vohar and Thana, so can be visited on the same day as the lake. Another way of getting to them is by tonga from Borivli Station on the B.B. and C.I. Railway. A good country road runs to within a mile of the caves, which number some hundred and nine in all. They are the work of a Buddhist colony and date from the second century A.D. to the ninth. Some penetrate so deeply into the heart of the mountain that they have never been explored, tradition asserting that one actually extends as far as Damaun. The interiors are elaborately carved with figures of Buddha, trees, elephants, dagobas, lions, etc.

Most of the neighbouring hills are covered with jungle. The one in which the caves lie is crowned by a rounded mass of compact rock, hence its selection by the Buddhists. From the road a pathway runs in a north-easterly direction up to a ravine stretching east and west. From there a steep ascent leads to a terrace facing westwards. Here the Great Chaitya Cave and two others are situated. About a hundred and fifty yards to north-west is the Maharaja Cave, once used either as a dharamsala or darbar hall.

## THANA

Thana lies twenty miles from Bombay. The Great Indian Peninsula Railway ran the first train in India between these two places, on April 16, 1853. Subsequently the Railway adopted the motto 'Primus in India' suggested by Sir Bartle Frere (1862—67). Thana was one of the early Portuguese possessions but was wrested from that power by the Marathas, under Baji Rao, the first Peshwa of Poona, in 1737.

While subject to Portuguese dominion the land was richly cultivated. Handsome country residences were dotted among rice fields and palm groves. Two of the finest manors belonged respectively to John de Melos, whose banqueting hall and beautiful gardens were far famed, and to Martin Alphonso reputed the richest 'Dom on this side of Goa.' The Marathas destroyed these houses and several Churches. The neighbourhood boasted special sanctity from the fact of its having been visited by the Italian friar Oderious, who, with forty other Christians, suffered martyrdom at Thana in A.D. 1320.

In 1774 reinforcements were sent from Portugal to retake the lost Portuguese territories. On learning this the Government of Bombay, who had long been in treaty to obtain Thana peaceably from the Marathas, sent a detachment, under General Robert Gordon, to seize Thana. The bombardment began on December 26. Three days later the garrison were put to the sword. It was from Thana Fort that Trimbakji Danglia, the notorious minister and favourite of the last Peshwa, effected his escape in 1816. The adventure was coloured by an element of romance, wherein a troubadour figured and a ballad. The minstrel was a Maratha groom in the service of an English officer of the garrison. He kept passing before the prisoner's window singing, and the burden of his song was ever the same. Bishop Heber transcribed it as follows:—

Behind the bush the bowmen hide,  
The horse beneath the tree,  
Where shall I find a knight will ride  
The jungle paths with me?  
There are five and fifty coursers there  
And four and fifty men,  
When the fifty-fifth shall mount his steed,  
The Deccan thrives again.

The Fort of Thana was subsequently converted into a gaol. Half a mile from it is the Church consecrated by Bishop Heber in 1825. To west lies the cemetery. Under one tombstone rests John Halsey, who was Chief at Salsette in 1794. Another grave contains the remains of Stephen Babington, whose statue, by Chantrey, is one of the finest in Bombay Cathedral. He died from injuries received in a fire at the neighbouring village of Wasauli.

### BASSEIN

Next to Goa Bassein was the most important Portuguese settlement in India. It had been ceded to the Portuguese by Sultan Bahadur of Gujarat after their General, Nuna de Cunha, had carried the great walled city and fortress by storm, in 1532. The town is of considerable antiquity and stands upon a peninsula divided, on its southern side, from Salsette by a channel half a mile wide. A second river flows past it to north, while to west stretches the sea. During the rains a backwater converts it into an island. From south of Bassein to the point of Chaul the coast forms a deep bay wherein lie the islands of Salsette, Bombay, Karanja, Hog, Elephanta and Kenery. Hamilton writes, in 1723, that when he visited Bassein, late in the seventeenth century, most of its wealth was possessed by Churches and convents, or else by Portuguese gentry, who passed their existence in idleness and sensual pleasures.

Bassein was the headquarters of the Portuguese General of the North, as he was styled to distinguish him from the military commander of Goa. When hard pressed by the Marathas he appealed vainly for help to Bombay. Finally he wrote in desperation offering 'a parcel of plate,' in exchange for ammunition, which was accordingly about to be sent to

him when news was received that Bassein had fallen to Chimnaji Appa, the Peshwa's General, on May 12, 1739. At this Bombay despatched a ship, and three galivants to bring away the Portuguese garrison and inhabitants who, on evacuating the city, were accorded the honours of war. Bombay further deputed Captain Inchbird to treat with Chimnaji Appa on the Company's behalf. They essayed to propitiate the conqueror with a polite letter and a gift of six yards of red velvet, six yards of green and six of cloth.

## IMPORTANT INSTITUTIONS

### THE PORT TRUST

That most important body, the Port Trust, was founded in 1873, when an Act for its establishment was passed. One of the provisos was that it should consist of not less than nine, or more than twelve persons, a third of whom and the chairman were to be Government servants. The duties of the Trust are many and various. It is administered by a chairman assisted by a deputy-chairman. How Catholic are the functions exercised is proved by the composition of the staff and the distribution of work among six departments. These consist of an Engineering Department, a Port Department (managed by a port officer, an assistant port officer, and a harbour master), a Dock Department, a Traffic Department, a Secretary's Department, and a Medical Department.

By the Act of 1873 the Trust was empowered to levy dues on all goods passing over its wharves. Further, it was given the control of pilots and the conservancy of the harbour. The docks and a considerable amount of property passed under its sway.

The Board of Trustees has been enlarged to consist of seventeen members. The Chairman and nine Trustees are appointed by Government. One must be a Military Officer serving in the Bombay Brigade, and three others must be Indians resident in the city. The remaining seven Trustees are elected. Five are nominated by the Chamber of Commerce and two by representatives of the Indian mercantile community.

## THE IMPROVEMENT TRUST

The City Improvement Trust began its operations late in 1898. Its creation was a result of the plague, which worked such havoc in 1896, and aimed at ameliorating sanitary conditions, more especially the better ventilation of densely populated districts. To this end it was entrusted with the task of constructing new streets, opening out overcrowded localities, reclaiming additional land from the sea, erecting better dwellings for the poor and providing adequate police quarters. The Trust is empowered to acquire such properties as are considered necessary for these purposes. By 1918 the large sum of 693 lakhs had been expended upon the city. Much useful work was done in building chauls for the accommodation of mill employees, wherein the monthly rental for a single room is from Rs. 3-4-0 to Rs. 5.

## PARSI PANCHAYAT

Although the chief functions of the Panchayat are now those of a charitable institution, time was when the Council of Five wielded considerable authority over their brethren in Bombay. With the growth of the early Parsi colony in the islands it was deemed necessary to form the Panchayat in order to 'settle private disputes and carry on the internal management of the community.' The exact date at which the society began to exercise its functions is not known. It came into existence some time prior to 1723 and speedily waxed a power in the land. Religious and social questions were decided by the Panchayat who, when matters of serious moment came up for judgment, called a general meeting of Parsis. When necessary the Council of Five administered corporal punishment by ordering offenders to be severely slipped.



As the Persian colony increased in size and importance the patriarchal form of government wielded by the Panchayat began to wane and grow ineffective. It remained for Sir Jamsetji Jeejeebhoy to divert the Council's energies into a new channel. This he did in 1843 by entrusting them with three lakhs of rupees wherewith to found a benevolent fund for the assistance of needy Parsis. In addition to its philanthropical work the Panchayat also manages the general property of the community, including the Towers of Silence and all pertaining thereto.

### **PINJRAPOL**

The Bombay Pinjrapol, or asylum for aged and decrepid animals, was founded in 1843 by a Jain merchant, a member of the religious sect which holds every form of life so sacred that none professing its tenets would willingly hurt a fly, let alone rob it of existence. The affairs of the institute are managed by a secretary under the supervision of a committee. Several thousand animals are provided with a home and medical treatment. A large annual income is derived from voluntary contributions, dividends on invested funds, house property, etc. Pinjrapol is situated in Buleshwar.

### **YOUNG MEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION**

The Y.M.C.A. own a handsome building in Wodehouse Road, erected in 1906 at a cost of Rs. 1,60,000. Its principal features are a hall, reading room, library, gymnasium, restaurant, and sleeping accommodaton for fifty members. Cricket and tennis grounds are situated near by. Branches exist at Girgaum and Byculia for students, educated Indian youths, and Native Christians.

## YOUNG WOMEN'S CHRISTIAN ASSOCIATION

The Young Women's Christian Association possesses a Boarding Home and Institute in Wellington Lines. The latter is worked much on the same principle as a club and comprises a lecture hall, library, reading room, and employment registry. Lessons are given in cooking, dressmaking, millinery, French, Hindustani, physical culture, and botany. In 1909 shorthand and typewriting were added to this category.

Travellers are met and speeded on their way. They are also assisted with useful information.

The Home occupies the three upper storeys of the building. A few rooms are reserved for the use of members passing through.

# **GREAT FESTIVALS**

## **DEWALEE**

The dates of Indian festivals are reckoned by the lunar calendar, hence they, like our Christian Easter, are movable feasts. So it comes that Dewalee, or the Feast of Lights, falls either at the end of October or in the beginning of November, according to the new moon.

Dewalee lasts three days. During this period merchants count up their profits and nightly illuminate hundreds of small ghi-fed lamps in honour of Lakshmi, Goddess of Good Fortune. The sight after dark is a very pretty one, the entire Indian quarter being thrown into relief against the encircling blackness by what appears to be countless rows of stars twinkling from every house and shop.

## **COCONUT DAY**

Coconut Day is celebrated towards the close of August and is really a thanksgiving service for the ending of the monsoon. Crowds assemble on the beach at Moody Bay between Malabar Hill and Colaba. Brahmans invoke the All Powerful Ruler of the winds and waves, imploring calm weather that ships may safely travel across the face of the waters. Flowers and coconuts are thrown into the sea as propitiatory offerings.

## **MOHURRUM**

This is an important Muhammadan festival commemorating the early deaths of Hassan and Hussein, grandsons of the Prophet by his favourite daughter Fatima. The anniversary

is duly observed with open manifestations of sorrow by all members of the Shiah and Khoja sects. The Sunnis, however, regard the occasion as one of rejoicing, hence the friction which arises between the rival Mussulman camps.

Nowhere else in India is Mohurruum kept with so much ceremony as in Bombay, where the festival is celebrated much as it is in Persia. On the last day the mourning closes with a passion play representing Hussein's martyrdom on the plain at Kerbela.

## HISTORY

Long before the dawn of history, possibly prior even to the advent of man upon the globe, Bombay formed part of the mainland. Successive volcanic disturbances converted what had been a pair of rocky ridges joined to the great Indian peninsular into a group of seven small islands lying off the western coast.

Petrified frogs at Worli, and a subterranean forest, discovered 32 feet below high water mark during the work of excavating Prince's Dock, tend to prove that the islands were in turn swallowed by one earthquake shock and disgorged by another. When found the trees were upright and belonged to a variety still common in the neighbourhood, namely the khair or *Arabia catechu*.

From what little is known of their early history it appears that for a considerable time prior to the Christian Era the islands were considered part of a territory commonly spoken of as the North Konkan by antiquarians. *Aparanta* and *Aparantaka* are the names applied to it by Sanskrit writers of the Puranic period, while Ptolemy refers to it as *Ariaka* and to the seven islands by the collective title of *Heptanesia*. The great Buddhist Emperor Asoka—250 B.C.—grandson of Chandragupta, founder of the famous Mauryan dynasty, seems to have been the first ruler of the North Konkan. At that date *Heptanesia* appears to have been considered of little or no political importance. The earliest known inhabitants were Kolis, or Husbandmen, a dark-skinned race of negroid type and supposed Dravidian stock. Their descendants are still known as Kolis. Colaba is named after them and they have their dwellings in Bombay to this hour, fishing in the harbour

and tending the palm trees as their remote forefathers did long before the first misty dawn of history. That profitable relations existed between the islands and the mainland was proved by the discovery of buried treasure, in the form of silver coin, at Cavel and Salsette towards the close of the nineteenth century. Inscriptions on the money showed it to date from the Rashtrakutas, a dynasty of which little is known beyond the mere fact that it held sway over the North Konkan some time previous to the Christian Era.

If in those early ages Heptanesia laid any claim to distinction it could only have been by reason of the proximity of the group to Gharapuri (Elephanta), a neighbouring Island famous because of Puri, a city built upon its north-eastern side. Puri was the capital of the Maurya kings. That it was an important and flourishing seaport is established by the title applied to it of Goddess of the Fortunes of the Western Ocean. During the sixth century it was attacked by the Chalukyas. Although the Mauryas suffered a severe defeat, they were not driven from their island stronghold until a century later when Puri was wrested from them by Pulkeshwa, the most powerful sovereign the Chalukyas ever had.

In the course of the ninth century, the Silharas became paramount in North Konkan. Puri was their capital. Under them it became known as Mangalpuri or City of Prosperity. Of Dravidian origin, the Silharas appear to have governed wisely and well. They encouraged colonization, developed commerce and inaugurated a land revenue system whereby a patel, or headman, was placed in charge of each village. They made roads, among them the present highway from Bombay to Thana, then named Rajapath. At Walkeshwar they built a mighty temple to the Trimurti, and undertook frequent pilgrimages to Shri Gundi, the holy cleft on the

seashore at Malabar Point. Then, as now, those who managed to wriggle their way through the supposed Yoni were held to be freed from all their sins and to start afresh with a clean slate.

In A.D. 1260 Kumarpal, King of Gujarat, invaded the North Konkan and obliged Soma, the last Silhara monarch, to fly for life. In this extremity Soma joined his fleet and put out to sea, where he perished by drowning. After his death his dominions were annexed by Mahdev, king of Devgiri and from then on Puri ceased to be the capital of a dynasty. Devgiri died in A.D. 1271. His son Ramdev succeeded to the gadi only to be defeated by Alla-ud-Din Khilji of Delhi, and forced to become a tributary.

Immediately after Ramdev's humiliation at the hands of the Muhammadans his second son Bhimdev established himself as lord paramount of North Konkan. Possibly the new ruler was on his way to the erstwhile famous city of Puri when he halted at Mahim, then known as Newale or Baradbet, the 'Deserted Island.' So charmed was he with the place that he decided to settle there and build his capital amid the coconut palms. Thus the islands styled Heptanesia by Ptolemy came to be the headquarters of a Hindu dynasty. Soon palaces, shrines, and a fortified city sprang up out of the jungle. Dominating all was the stately temple to Prabhadevi, patron deity of King Bhimdev's line.<sup>1</sup> He called his capital Mahikavati, which, in course of time, was shortened into Mahim. How no traces of the fair and goodly city built by King Bhimdev are now to be found may be attributable to the sea, which has encroached very considerably since those days.

Bhimdev died in 1303 and was succeeded by his son, Pratapshah. This sovereign had not long sat upon the gadi when an order went forth from Delhi to establish garrisons at

Mahim and Salsette. This was duly accomplished in 1318. Religious persecution followed as a matter of course and many important temples were destroyed. Thana was the local headquarters of the Muhammadans.

In spite of Mussulman interference and proximity, Pratapshah continued to maintain some show of regal power until 1331. In that year he was assassinated by his brother Nagardev, who usurped the throne. After a reign of fourteen years Nagardev was in turn attacked by the Muhammadans and compelled to defend his dominions. While he was absent with his army the enemy closed round Mahim. The Hindu queen offered a brave defence, but her heroism was unavailing. She was killed, and the capital taken. The final battle between Hindus and Mussulmans was fought at Byculla. The result was in favour of the followers of Islam, and Bombay passed into Muhammadan keeping.

During the fifteenth century North Konkan and its dependencies became subject to the Sultans of Gujarat. Although Muhammadan rule was nominally established in Bombay and the six adjacent islands, the real governorship was in the hands of Hindus.

January 21, 1509, stands out as an important date in the annals of the island group. On that day the Portuguese Viceroy of Goa, Dom Francesco de Almeda, and a fleet of nineteen vessels called at Mahim for wood and water. Their purpose was peaceable enough, but the inhabitants had learnt of their recent raid upon the rich city of Dabhol, and so fled in terror, leaving the Fort to fall into their hands.

The Portuguese sailed away again almost immediately, to return in 1532, when Nuna da Cunha laid siege to Bassein, ultimately making Bombay, Thana, Bandra and Mahim tributaries of Portugal.



Finding the Portuguese thus firmly established upon his territory, the Sultan of Gujarat sought to make the best of a bad job by concluding a treaty whereby he ceded the islands to them in exchange for their promise of Portuguese support against the increasing power of the Mogul Emperors of Delhi.

No sooner had the Portuguese taken possession than they set about dividing up the islands into fiefs. These they let out on leases which could be renewed yearly or triennially, and in some cases actually extended to three lives. The rents charged were nominal, and ranged from four to ten per cent on the profits made. Dried fish constituted the chief trade of the locality. The Portuguese landlords further derived their revenues from taxes upon palm oil, ghi, rice lands, and areca and coconut palms. These last flourished in the greatest profusion.

The first lessee of Bombay was a man named Mestro Dioge. He was succeeded by Garcia da Orta, the well-known physician and botanist who resided in the Quinta, now Bombay Castle, and converted the surrounding land into 'the fairest garden in all India.' A royal patent signed on January 18, 1572, granted the island of Mazagon in perpetuity to Lionel de Souza, son-in-law to Antonio Pessoa, the original lessee. In the case of churches and religious orders the land was freely given for ever. It is easy to perceive how very hampering all these leases and deeds of gift proved when the islands passed to the English in 1665.

With the advent of the Portuguese a great wave of proselytism surged over the newly ceded territory and its seven principal villages of Mahim, Parel, Varelia (Vadalla), Syva (Sion), Mazagon, Bombaim (Bombay), and Varel (Worli). The majority of the population consisted of Kolis, characterized by a knife slung from the neck, who dwelt in palm huts scattered at will over the islands.

The Franciscans were the first of the many missionaries who hastened to the colony. They were shortly followed by the Jesuits, among whom came the famous St. Francis Xavier. So zealously did they work, and so true were they to their claim that the Portuguese had not merely come to the East for spices but to gain souls for Christ, that ten thousand conversions were effected within the first few years.

Meanwhile a rival power was springing up to the north. Early in the seventeenth century a firman was obtained from the Mogul Emperor at Delhi according permission for an English minister to reside at his Court, and for English merchants to carry on trade at Surat. Secure in these two important concessions, the English merchant venturers cast longing eyes in the direction of Bombay. They were quick to recognize the value of the islands as a naval base. This led them to join the Dutch in an expedition against the Portuguese at Goa and to land and burn Bombay Castle in 1626. Impressed by the strategic importance of the place, the directors of the Honourable India Company urged Oliver Cromwell to consider a suggestion to buy Bombay made by the Council at Surat.

Fate was working for the merchants. On June 23, 1661, the marriage treaty between Charles II of Great Britain and Catharine Braganza was signed at the Palace of Whitehall in London. With her as part dowry the Portuguese Princess brought 'the Island of Bombay and all rights, profits, territories and appurtenances thereunto belonging.' However the actual cession did not take effect until four years later. That is was bitterly opposed by the Portuguese settlers there can be no doubt. They had everything to lose and nothing to gain by the exchange. The Viceroy even went so far as to write to the King of Portugal: 'India will be lost on the same day in which the English nation is settled in Bombay.'

That the British at home had a very hazy notion of their new possessions is shown by Lord Clarendon's assertion at the time that the Island of Bombay 'was within a very little distance of Brazil.'

It was in 1665 that Humphrey Cooke 'took in his hand earth and stones and walked upon the bastions in sign of possession by the English.' This taking over was far from being a simple or an easy matter. Before the unwilling Portuguese would reluctantly agree to even a partial transfer they required the British captain to sign a hampering treaty for which he was afterwards severely censured by those responsible for sending him out. As a matter of fact all he managed to get was Bombay with its dependencies of Mazagon, Parel and Worli. The Portuguese retained Mahim and Bandra, from which points of vantage they proceeded to harass their unwelcome neighbours upon every possible occasion.

The new Governor of Bombay found his path beset by difficulties. Not the least of these arose from finding himself called upon to deal with a mixed and hostile population some ten thousand strong. These were roughly divided into seven classes, namely, the Portuguese landlords, the Indo-Portuguese or 'Topasses, the Native Christians, the cultivators, Frasses or sweeper caste, the Kolis and the Bhandaris, hereditary palm tappers.

Bombay proper belonged to Donna Ignez de Miranda, known as La Senhora da Ilha, in whom was vested the right to enjoy the land together with the obligation of defending it.

The native converts to Christianity proved of great value to the English. Having been educated by the Jesuits, they were able to write and read in Roman characters, so were available as assistants, clerks and secretaries. The Topasses or Indo-Portuguese also adapted themselves quickly to the new order.

Preferring military to clerical service, they enlisted as soldiers, thus forming the nucleus of the Bombay Army.

The policy of the first three Governors—Captain Humphrey Cooke, Sir Gervase Lucas and Captain Gary—seems to have been chiefly directed towards acquiring territory and attracting desirable colonists to the islands. Despite the success which attended their efforts, Bombay did not begin to realize any of its future greatness until taken over by the Honourable India Company in 1668 at an annual rent of ten pounds sterling.

No sooner was the exchange effected than the merchants vigorously set to work to develop the possibilities of the islands. Officials were brought from England to superintend shipbuilding, lay out pepper plantations and start cloth factories. Fortifications were repaired and strengthened and the survivors of Sir Abraham Shipman's expedition enrolled as the Company's First European Regiment, or Bombay Fusiliers, afterwards known as the 103rd Foot and now as the second Battalion Royal Dublin Fusiliers. Side by side with this forward and energetic policy the Company promised all inhabitants of the isles 'a moderate toleration.'

Notwithstanding all this it is very probable that Bombay would have been lost to England but for the advent of Gerald Aungier as Governor. This man of genius, tact and untiring devotion succeeded Sir George Oxenden as President of Surat in 1669. Finding the islands menaced by enemies within and without, he at once set to work to remove existing causes of feud between the Portuguese landlords and their English supplanters. He established Courts of Justice at Bombay and Mahim, and appointed a constable to each parish equipped with a silver-tipped staff engraved with the Company's arms. Further, he founded a Mint and strengthened the Castle, which by 1673 boasted a hundred and twenty cannon, sixty

field pieces and a garrison of three hundred English, four hundred Topasses, five hundred well-armed Militia led by English officers, and three hundred Bhandaris armed with clubs. Thanks to these precautions Bombay was able to repulse an attempted assault by the Dutch under Commodore Rickloff van Goen.

Before long a town sprang up within the fortifications, and it became imperative to assure a constant food supply for the rapidly increasing population. As the English male community naturally far outnumbered the female, the Company arranged to ship needy women out from England in order to provide wives for their employees. That no undue levity was countenanced is shown by a rule to the effect that those wives who failed to behave themselves should be warned to mend their ways. In the event of this admonition passing unregarded, the offender was to be 'deprived of her liberty to go abroad and fed on bread and water until such time as she should be embarked on board ship for England.'

As soon as the Company's rule was firmly established in Bombay, desirable colonists began to arrive in the person of Banias, Parsis, Armenians, and other traders of repute. So great was the influx that when Aungier died on June 30, 1677, the population numbered 60,000. Unfortunately the sanitary conditions had not kept pace with this amazing increase. The result was deplorable from a hygienic point of view. New arrivals from Europe only lived a few months, while not one child in twenty survived infancy. Bombay, which had been named 'The Island of the Good Life' by the early Portuguese, had developed into a veritable white man's grave. Matters were made worse by the gradual silting up of the creeks dividing Bombay, Mazagon, Worli, Mahim, Parel and Old Woman's Island. At high tide the sea rushed through the breaches and overflowed the neighbouring lands,

leaving behind it pestilential deposits of the deadliest description. Another menace to health arose from the practice of manuring toddy palms with fish. This bred immense quantities of poisonous buckshaw flies. A further source of disease lay in the dense jungle which shut out every breath of fresh air.

Threatened by enemies without and pestilence within, the once prosperous colony of Bombay dwindled from 60,000 in 1677 to 16,000 in 1718. Notwithstanding this disheartening result the Company did not slacken its efforts for the ultimate success of the islands. Christmas Day, 1716, witnessed the completion of the town walls. Next followed the construction of a dry dock, the establishment of a post office and a cotton press, and the completion of St. James' Church, now known as St. Thomas' Cathedral. Meanwhile so much had been done to improve sanitary conditions that by 1744 the population numbered 70,000.

Much of this fresh wave of prosperity was due to the amalgamation of the rival East India Companies, and to the abolishment of the vexatious dual control over the affairs of the islands once exercised by Surat and Bombay. All this time the Company's external policy had been dictated by reasons of the utmost prudence. They had strenuously avoided any friction with their warring neighbours which might possibly endanger their internal development. Hence they shunned the political arena until such time as they could hope to enter it with assurance of success.

The wisdom of this waiting game was fully justified by events. Early in the eighteenth century the sea power of the Sidis was broken. Although never a maritime power, in the European sense of the term, the Moghul Emperors maintained a fleet on the West Coast. The Admiral was styled by the Arabian title of Sidi, from the fact that the chief of the

Moghul marine was commonly an Arabian, or Abyssinian. His headquarters were at Danda Rajapura, an island town at the mouth of the river of the same name. Here a considerable number of vessels were stationed. The garrison consisted of at least 30,000 men, and was well supplied with black bullocks. One of the chief duties of the Sidi was to provide an escort for Muhammadans pilgrims between Surat, known as the port of Mecca, and Djeddah.

The Admiral, Sidi Yakub, was in the habit of putting in to Bombay. When he appeared with his fleet, in October 1672, President Aungier refused to allow him to land, whereat he withdrew to Janjira. He returned on December 24, and was allotted quarters at Mazgaon. In the following year he again cast anchor in the harbour. His four principal frigates were hauled ashore, where they lay under the walls of Bombay Castle. When, in April 1674, his ships were driven in by a gale he insisted upon landing at Sion. His men drove the occupants out of their homes and took possession. Moreover five hundred armed Sidis sought to obtain a footing at Sion but were driven off by cannon. The Deputy Governor of Bombay then agreed to allow three hundred ashore at a time provided that they carried swords only and no other weapons. A year later Aurangzib strengthened the fleet by two large frigates and a couple of thousand men. Serious trouble ensued in April 1677 when the rival Admirals, Sidi Sambal and Sidi Kasim came to Bombay together. The former was assigned quarters at Mazgaon and the latter was lent the India House, or Old Custom House near the present Mint. Sidi Sambal was commanded by the Emperor to hand over to Kasim, who marched with 300 men to Mazgaon. The report of matchlocks warned Bombay Castle that a battle was in progress. Captain Keigwan was despatched, with the greater part of the garrison, to restore order. Ultimately the Council reported,

‘We have at length induced the two Sidis to an agreement, so that Sidi Kasim is contented to surrender up Sidi Sambal’s wife and children, and Sidi Sambal is contented to surrender up the Armada.’ Despite this ardently desired consummation Bombay was by no means rid of the Sidi and his fleet. In May 1780, he again established himself a Mazgaon, where, in the following August he fixed the heads of eighty Marathas on poles along the seashore to celebrate a victory over Sivaji’s men at Kenery. In 1689 he captured Bombay, with the exception of the Castle, in retaliation for an attempt on the part of that city and Surat, to substitute the Company’s rule at sea for that of the Moghul. The English were not quit of him until they had apologized to the Emperor, paid a heavy fine, agreed to dismiss Child ‘the origin of all the evil,’ and return to their position of simple traders.

The Sidis power was ultimately broken on September 24, 1759. On that day the King’s troops, and those of the Honourable Company were drawn up near the Horn Work. The Governor, Council and all the chief inhabitants were assembled to hear an imperial firman, from Delhi, read aloud by the Secretary on horseback proclaiming that the brave courageous and Honourable Richard Bouchier, Esq., Governor of Bombay, had been appointed to the command of His Majesty’s Castle at Surat by Hasbul Hukam ‘that the Governor of Bombay might take charge of His Majesty’s Castle at Surat and the preservation of the trade of the seas. Given on the first of the month Tillhaj and the sixth year of the reign of his present Moghul Majesty, otherwise June 14, 1750. The Portuguese suffered such serious reverses at the hands of the Marathas as no longer to prove a menace to Bombay. Although these two potent enemies were removed from their path, the Company continued to strengthen their position. By 1743 Bombay was still further fortified by a moat dug around



the city walls at a cost of Rs. 2,50,000. Two powder mills were erected, the first on Old Woman's Island and the second where the Secretariat now stands. Previous to this a Bank had been established and land reclamation set on foot. Forts existed at Worli, Salsette, Mahim, Mazagon, Dongri and Butcher's Island.

In the latter part of the eighteenth century rival claimants for the Maratha throne gave the Company a much desired opportunity to deal a blow at the enemy who had menaced them for so long. The occasion arose on the death of Madhavrao, Peshwa of Poona, when the throne was seized by Ragunathrao, an uncle of the deceased. The new Raja's claim was disputed by a strong party which favoured a posthumous son of the late monarch. Ultimately Ragunathrao was driven from the capital. At this the Company offered to reinstate him provided he would in return cede them Broach, Jambusa, Olpan, Bassein and Salsette as well as the islands of Elephanta, Gharapuri, Kennery, Karanja and Hog. Accordingly a treaty was concluded between the Company and Ragunathrao which resulted in the first Maratha War. The English stormed Salsette and Thana and occupied the smaller islands. Later on Warren Hastings annulled the treaty, but the Company retained Salsette, Karanja, Elephanta and Hog Islands.

In 1770 cotton trade was established with China, and in 1778 Mr. William Hornby entered into another treaty with Ragunathrao whereby Bombay obtained Bassein, Kennery and yet more islands. The great causeway at Breach Kandy, known as Hornby Vellard, was built and many other important works projected.

Abandoning their pacific policy, the Company waged war against the Marathas and against the confederacy of Indian Powers under Haidar Ali. Their forces were constantly in

the field during the close of the eighteenth and beginning of the nineteenth century. Naval expeditions were also undertaken. The coast was cleared of the pirates who had infested the neighbouring seas long before complaint was made of them by Ptolemy and Marco Polo. Their headquarters were at the sacred Island of Beyt, for which they had earned the unsavoury title of Pirates' Isle. It had also been their custom to hide in the creeks of Gujarat, Cutch and Kathiawar.

The year 1803 stands out by reason of the great fire which destroyed three-fourths of the bazaar, the barracks and a considerable amount of public and private property. 'Tis an ill wind that blows nobody good.' The breeze that fanned the all-devouring flame did a great deal towards cleansing the city of impurities and making room for much needed improvements.

### THROUGH FRENCH EYES

Early in the nineteenth century Langlès wrote: 'The Bombay establishment embraces the entire Malabar Coast from Cape Comorin to Guzarat. Its jurisdiction includes the English Factories in the Persian Gulf, Red Sea, Egypt, Basrah and Baghdad. It is composed of a Council consisting of the President-Governor and three other members. The military force is made up of a European infantry regiment of eight companies, nine Sepoy regiments, a Marine battalion, a brigade of artillery, and a corps of Engineers. In 1812 the Europeans established in the Presidency amounted to five hundred. Altogether the Company has, in India, only ten thousand Indian Cavalry, five or six thousand European infantry, a hundred thousand Indian infantry and a fine artillery, supported by a few troops of the British King.

This apparently insignificant force enables them to exercise a despotic rule over a territory almost as extensive as Europe.

At Poona they watch over the Peshwa, Lieutenant of the Raja shut up at Satara, and protect him against Holkar and Daulat Rao Sindhia, the last of whom is the real sovereign of the Marathas. He is generally in camp near Oujein, with a British Resident in attendance.

The old citadel at Surat flew the English and Moghul flags. It presented an imposing and venerable appearance. The French, Dutch and Portuguese flags floated above their respective factories, and residences so that the town looked attractive from afar. Close inspection revealed it a ruin of walls and tumble-down edifices, narrow, irregular streets, dirty and crowded with all nationalities. In spite of its having suffered greatly from the commercial rivalry of Bombay it is still one of the largest cities in India. The population was returned at 800,000 in 1796. When the Marathas captured Guzarat the weavers of kincobs, embroiderers, jewellers and workers in ivory, ebony and sandalwood fled to Surat. The citadel is an immense edifice. The English standard floats from one bastion and the Moghul from another. A wall and moat encircle the town. The suburbs, too, are protected by ramparts and a ditch. The outer wall has thirteen gates, three of which open on to the river. The inner fortifications are entered by four gates. Two of these connect with the citadel. Every night the keys are taken to the Governor, who keeps them until the doors are opened at dawn.

South of the citadel is a vast green, called the Castle Bowling Green surrounded by stockades of bamboo. Here bales are prepared for embarkation. The town contains handsome mosques, a Custom House, Mint and several large

tanks. European cemeteries lie outside the walls. The best tombs belong to the Dutch and are very finely carved. There are also some notable Muhammadan gardens enclosed by high walls. The handsomest is Begam Bagh laid out by a sister of Aurangzib Shah. The Portuguese took and pillaged Surat in 1530. The citadel was carried by the Company's troops in 1759. Thereafter a firman from Delhi gave the Company the revenues and authority of the defeated Sidi, upon condition that the Moghul flag should fly above the citadel and also from the principal ship in port. In 1800 a treaty transferred the government of the town and surrounding country to the Company, who engaged to pay Nawab Nasir-ud-Din Naisah, and his heirs an annual pension of a lakh of rupees, and a fifth of the revenues.'

After the defeat of Baji Rao, Peshwa of Poona, at the battle of Kirkee, in 1817, the Company annexed the Deccan. This enabled Bombay to freely develop its trade with the mainland. During the momentous years that followed, affairs were directed by a man of genius and wide executive ability in the person of Mountstuart Elphinstone (1819-28). Many vital reforms date from this Governor's tenure of office. A good road was made up the Bhoré Ghat, thereby greatly accelerating communication with the Deccan. The revenue system was remodelled on a moderate and uniform basis, education was encouraged, and trade expanded. In view of the ever-increasing needs of Bombay, Lord Elphinstone (1853-60) expended much care upon plans for reclaiming the flats, for providing the city with better drainage, and an adequate water supply. All these projects were carried to completion under Sir Bartle Frere.

By 1838 a monthly postal system was in force between Bombay and England. The mails came overland from Port Said to Suez, where they were collected by ships belonging to the Indian Marine. Another important step forward was

taken on April 16, 1853, when the Great Indian Peninsular Railway ran its first train to Thana, a distance of twenty miles.

The East India Company came to an end with the Mutiny, so that in 1858 Bombay reverted to the Crown. In 1860 the first cotton mill started working and in the same year trams started to run. The opening of the Suez Canal in 1869 effected further wonders for the trade of Bombay, which had by that time developed into the recognized port of arrival and departure for the weekly English mails.

The fortunes of the island city may be said to have reached their apotheosis during the five years immediately succeeding the outbreak of Civil War in the United States in 1860. In that comparatively short time Bombay benefited to the extent of eighty-one millions sterling by the cotton trade diverted to its port from New Orleans. Many of the most notable public buildings date from these years of plenty. Naturally enough the boom was followed by the usual aftermath of depression. Speculators had lost their heads while everything they touched turned to gold. Failure after failure was reported and matters began to assume a very gloomy outlook. Nevertheless the fortunes of the city were too firmly established to suffer permanent hurt.

In 1865 the Gas Works opened. The first lamps lighted were those along the Bhendya Bazaar. That year the city owned 220 gas lamps in all. By 1874 this figure had been increased to 2,415.

In 1875 the King-Emperor Edward VII visited Bombay as Prince of Wales and laid the first stone of Prince's Dock. Just two years later Queen Victoria was declared Empress of India and Bombay rose to the rank of an Imperial city. Since then Bombay has been honoured by the presence of the King-Emperor George V and the Queen-Empress Mary.

A permanent memento of 'Their Majesties' visit is to take the form of a splendid gateway on Apollo Bunder. The imposing design is fourteenth century Gujarati. No happier or more appropriate style could have been selected, for it combines a bold and handsome outline with exquisite minutiae such as characterizes the carvings at Ahmedabad. Whether viewed from afar, or at close quarters, the Gate of India will be a portal worthy of the great land on the threshold of which it stands, a fitting welcome from East to West.

## CHIEF CLUBS

### BOMBAY CLUB

Since 1875 the Bombay Club has occupied premises in Esplanade Road. Prior to that it was situated in Rampart Row, where it was originally established in 1862, as successor to the defunct Indian Navy Club. The latter had been founded in 1845 by Commander H. B. Lynch, and a Committee of officers representing all the commissioned grades of the service. It soon acquired an enviable celebrity for its very excellent cuisine, under the good management of Pursers Bone and Keys. When the Secretary of State abolished the Indian Navy, in the historical despatch of November 28, 1862, the club effects were sold, and realized a sufficient sum to recoup original members their entrance fee. The balance was given to a local charity. The new Bombay Club purchased largely from its predecessor. Among other things acquired were the Burmese bell in the hall, and the plated candelabra. .

When choosing a name for it the founders of the Bombay Club were inspired by tradition and sentiment. A Bombay Club had existed in London early in the nineteenth century. Before it acquired the Byculla race stand as a residence, the present Byculla Club was known as the Bombay Club from 1823 until 1833.

### ROYAL BOMBAY YACHT CLUB

This is the most fashionable club in the city and a favourite resort of European society. The present fine premises on Apollo Bandar date from 1881, by which time sanction had

been obtained from the Lords of the Admiralty for the blue flag of the Fleet to be flown above the roof. A year later the privilege was extended to yachts belonging to the club. Weekly races are held from the beginning of December to the end of April. The annual regatta takes place in February and continues for several days.

The club stands upon historical ground once included in the dockyard. Near by was the broad gangway, which constituted the private landing stage of Admirals and Naval Commanders in Chief.

Asian Club	...	...	...	Apollo Bandar.
Bombay Bar Gymkhana (for Barristers only)	...	...	...	Chowpatty.
Bombay Gymkhana	...	...	...	Esplanade Road.
British India Marine Service Club	...	...	...	Hornby Road.
Byculla Club (Established 1833)	...	...	...	Bellasis Road.
Curzon Club	...	...	...	} All at Chowpatty
Hindu Merchants' Club	...	...	...	
Islam Club	...	...	...	
Orient Club	...	...	...	
Parsi Gymkhana	...	...	...	Marine Lines.
Ladies Gymkhana,	...	...	...	The Ridge,
etc.				Malabar Hill.





# CONSULATES

## UNITED STATES

The first duly accredited Consul of the United States arrived at Bombay in 1898, in the person of Mr. Thomas Fee. Previous to that the position had been filled by the Manager of the Standard Oil Company. Mr. Fee established the Consulate in Roosevelt House, nearly opposite the Taj Mahal. At present it is situated in Pathé Building, Ballard Estate. The total trade between Bombay and the United States amounted to about Rs. 1,20,000,000 during 1919.

Belgium	...	10 Cuffe Parade, Colaba.
Brazil	...	381 Hornby Road.
Cuba	...	225 Girgaon Road.
Denmark	...	270 Hornby Road.
France	...	Clarke House, Wodehouse Road.
Italy	...	'Taj Buildings', Wallace Street.
Japan	...	Hornby Road.
Norway	...	'Alice Buildings', Hornby Road
Persia	...	129 Esplanade Road.
Sweden	...	} 1 Rampart Row.
Switzerland	...	

## LIST OF GOVERNORS OF BOMBAY SINCE THE YEAR 1665

Names	Landed in Bombay	Assumed Office	(i) Made over charge		REMARKS
			(ii) Sailed for England		
Sir Abraham Shipman	...	...	...	...	Died, September 1664 at Angadio.
Humfrey Cooke	...	February, 1665	November 5, 1666	...	Died, May 21, 1667.
Sir Gervase Lucas	November 5, 1666	November 5, 1666	...	...	Acting Died, May 21, 1667.
Capt. Henry Gary	...	May 22, 1667	September 23, 1668	...	Died at Surat, July 14, 1669.
Sir George Oxinden	...	September 23, 1668	...	...	...
Gerald Aungier	...	July 14, 1669	...	...	Died at Surat, June 30, 1677.
Thomas Rolt	...	June 30, 1677	October 27, 1681	General.	...
Sir John Child, Bart.	...	October 27, 1681	...	...	...
Capt. Richard Kergwin	...	...	...	...	Usurped Governorship 1683—1684.
Sir John Wyborne	...	1686	1690	...	Died at Surat, May 10, 1694.
Bartholomew Harris	...	February 4, 1690	...	...	...
Daniel Annesley	...	May 10, 1694	May 17, 1694	Acting.	...
Sir John Gayer	May 17, 1694	May 17, 1694	November 1704	...	...
Sir Nicholas Waite	...	November, 1704	September, 1708	...	...

## LIST OF GOVERNORS OF BOMBAY SINCE THE YEAR 1665—(Contd.)

Names	Landed in Bombay	Assumed Office	(i) Made over charge (ii) Sailed for England	REMARKS
William Aislabie	...	September, 1708	1715	...
Stephen Strutt	...	October 11, 1715	1716	Officiating.
Charles Boone	...	December 26, 1716	1720	On March 11, 1715, the Court of Directors re- solved to appoint a President for Bombay, and Mr. Boone was nominated to the post.
William Phipps	...	January 9, 1722	1728	Dismissed the Com- pany's service.
Robert Cowan	...	January 10, 1729	1734	...
John Horne	...	September 22, 1734	April 7, 1739	...
Stephen Law	...	April 7, 1739	November 1742	Acting Governor.
John Geekie	...	November 15, 1742	Do. November 26, 1742	...

William Wake	...	November 26, 1742	November 26, 1742	November 17, 1750 Do.	...
Richard Bouchier	...	...	November 17, 1750	February 28, 1760 Do.	...
Charles Crommelin	...	...	February 28, 1760	January 27, 1767 Do.	...
Thomas Hodges	...	...	January 27, 1767	...	...
William Hornby	...	...	February 26, 1771	January 1, 1784 Do.	...
Rawson Hart Boddam	...	...	January 1, 1784 Do.	...	...
Andrew Ramsay	...	...	January 9, 1788	September 16, 1788	Acting Governor.
Major-Genl. William Medows	...	September 16, 1788	September 16, 1788	January 21, 1790	Also Commander-in-Chief.
Major-Genl. Sir Robert Abercromby.	...	...	January 21, 1790	...	...
George Dick	...	...	November 26, 1792	September 3, 1795	Officiating.
John Griffith	...	...	September 3, 1795	December 27, 1795	...
Jonathan Duncan	...	December 27, 1795	December 27, 1795	...	Died at Bombay, August 11, 1811.
George Brown	...	...	August 11, 1811	August 12, 1812	Acting Governor.

Re-appointed January 6, 1785, under the Act, passed in 33, George III, which reconstituted the Government of Bombay.

## LIST OF GOVERNORS OF BOMBAY SINCE THE YEAR 1665—(Contd.)

Names	Landed in Bombay	Assumed Office	(i) Made over Charge (ii) Sailed for England	REMARKS
Rt. Hon. Sir Evan Nepean, Bart....	August 12, 1812	August 12, 1812	1812	...
Hon. Mountstuart Elphinstone ...	...	November 1, 1819	November 1, 1827	...
Major-Genl. Sir John Malcolm, G.C.B.	...	November 1, 1827	December 1, 1830	...
Lieut-Genl. Sir Thomas Sidney Beckwith, K.C.B. ...	...	December 1, 1830	...	Also Commander-in-Chief. Died at Mahabeshwar, January 15, 1831.
John Romer ...	...	January 17, 1831	March 21, 1831	Acting Governor.
Rt. Hon. the Earl of Clare ...	March 20, 1831	March 21, 1831	March 17, 1835	Died at Dapuri near Poona, July 9, 1838.
Sir Robert Grant, G.C.H.	...	March 17, 1835	Do.	...
James Farish ...	...	July 11, 1838	May 31, 1839	Acting Governor.
Major Sir James Rivett-Carnac, Bart.	...	May 31, 1839	April 27, 1841	..

Sir William Hay Macnaghten, Bart.	...	...	...	...	Was appointed Governor of Bombay by the Court of Directors, August 4, 1841, but before he could take charge of his appointment he was assassinated at Cabul, December 23, 1841.
George William Anderson Lieut.-Genl. Sir George Arthur, Bart., K.C.H.	June 8, 1842	April 23, 1841 June 9, 1842	June 9, 1842 August 5, 1846	...	Acting Governor. ...
Lestock Robert Reid ... Sir George Russell Clerk, K.C.B. ...	... January 23, 1847	August 6, 1846 January 23, 1847	June 23, 1847 May 1, 1848 May 6, 1848	...	Acting Governor. (1st time).
Rt. Hon. Viscount Falkland, G.C.H.	April 23, 1848	May 1, 1848	December 26, 1853 December 29, 1853	...	...
Rt. Hon. Baron Elphinstone, G.C.B., G.C.H.	December 25, 1853	December 26, 1853	May 11, 1860 May 13, 1860	...	...
Sir George Russell Clerk, K.C.B. ...	May 11, 1860	May 11, 1860	April 24, 1862 Do.	...	(2nd time)
Sir Henry Bartle Edward Frere, K.C.B.	April 22, 1862	April 24, 1862	March 6, 1867 Do.	...	...
Hon. Sir William Robert Seymour Vesey Fitz-Gerald.	February 26, 1867	March 6, 1867	May 6, 1872 Do.	...	...

## LIST OF GOVERNORS OF BOMBAY SINCE THE YEAR 1665—(Contd.)

Names	Landed in Bombay	Assumed Office	(i) Made over charge (ii) Sailed for England	REMARKS
Sir Philip Edmond Wodehouse, K.C.B.	May 1, 1872	May 6, 1872	April 30, 1877 Do.	...
Sir Richard Temple, Bart, K.C.S.I.  Lionel Robert Ashburner, C.S.I. ... Sir James Fergusson, Bart., K.C.M.G. James Braithwaite Peile, C.S.I. ...	April 26, 1877  ... April 28, 1880  ...	April 30, 1877 March 13, 1880 April 28, 1880 March 27, 1885 March 27, 1885	March 13, 1880 Do. April 28, 1880 March 27, 1885 March 30, 1885	...  Acting Governor. ... Acting Governor.
Rt. Hon. Baron Reay, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	March 30, 1885	March 30, 1885	April 12, 1890 Do.	...
Rt. Hon. Baron Harris, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	April 10, 1890	April 12, 1890	February 16, 1895 Do.	...
Herbert Mills Birdwood, C.S.I. ...	...	February 16, 1895	February 18, 1895	Acting Governor.
Rt. Hon. Baron Sandhurst, G.C.S.I., G.C.I.E.	February 18, 1895	February 18, 1895	February 17, 1900 Do.	...

Rt. Hon. Baron Northcote of Exeter, G.C.I.E., C.B.	February 17, 1900	September 5, 1903	...
Sir James Monteath, K.C.S.I.	...	Do.	...
Rt. Hon. Baron Lamington, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.	December 12, 1903	December 12, 1903	Acting Governor
John William Pitt Muir-Mackenzie, C.S.I.	...	July 27, 1907	...
Brevet-Col. Sir George Sydenham Clarke, G.C.M.G., G.C.I.E.	October 18, 1907	October 18, 1907	Acting Governor.
Rt. Hon. Baron Willingdon, G.C.I.E.	April 4, 1913	April 4, 1913	...
Sir George Lloyd	...	April 5, 1913	...
		December 16, 1913	...
		...	...
		December, 1918	...



## CURRENT COIN

<i>Silver.</i>	<i>Copper.</i>	<i>Nickel.</i>
One rupee.	Half-anna.	One anna.
Half-rupee.	One pice.	Two-anna.
Four-anna piece.	One pie.	Four-anna.
Two-anna piece.		Eight-anna.
One rupee = 16 annas.		One anna = 12 pies.

Currency notes are obtainable for 1, 2½, 5, 10, 20, 50, 100, 500, 1,000 and 10,000 rupees.

## WEIGHTS

$$\text{One tola} = \frac{72}{175} \text{ oz.} = 11 \frac{4141}{6250} \text{ gramme.}$$

$$80 \text{ tolas} = \text{one seer} = 2 \text{ lbs. } 0.914 \text{ oz.}$$

$$40 \text{ seer} = 1 \text{ maund.}$$

For foreign parcels posted in India 39 tolas are the equivalent of 1lb.

## CARRIAGE FARES

Within Fort area (Victoria Station and St. George's Hospital, etc., in North ; Churchgate Street Station, Wodehouse Bridge, etc., in West, Wodehouse and Merewether Roads to Apollo Bunder in South ; the sea face in East) :—

(a) By distance, 4 annas per mile or part of a mile.

(b) By time, 12 annas first hour and 6 annas for each succeeding half-hour or part of half-hour.

Within radius of 3½ miles from Floral Fountain (Colaba Point, Chaupati, Byculla, etc.) :—

By time, 1 rupee 12 annas for first hour and 8 annas for every subsequent half-hour.

Additional charge of 2 annas to be given when proceeding to following roads or portions of them : Nepean, Gowalia Tank, Pedder, Altamont, Harkness, Dongari, Wilderness, Mount Pleasant.

The above fares are for carriage of not more than three persons in a victoria.

Two children under seven years are reckoned as one passenger.

Luggage is charged 2 annas per package.

Detention for quarter-hour and up to half-hour, 2 annas.

Detention for each succeeding half-hour or fraction of half-hour, 2 annas.

# POSTAL INFORMATION

## INLAND POST

Letters				Book and pattern packets	Parcels			
Not exceeding one tola	Exceeding one tola but not 2½ tolas	Every additional 2½ tolas or part of that weight	Every ten tolas or part of that weight	Not exceeding 20 tolas	Not exceeding 40 tolas	Every additional 40 tolas or part of that weight up to 44 tolas	Exceeding 440 tolas but not exceeding 480 tolas	For every additional 40 tolas or part of that weight up to 800 tolas
anna ½	anna 1	anna 1	anna ½	anna 1	annas 3	annas 3	rupees 3	annas 4

The above holds good for Ceylon and Portuguese India.

## REGISTRATION FEE

For every letter, post card, book, pattern packet or parcel, to be registered ... .. 2 annas.

For parcels weighing over 440 tolas registration is compulsory.

## INSURANCE FEE

For every Rs. 50 of insured value ... .. 1 anna

## MONEY ORDER FEES

On any sum not exceeding Rs. 5 ... .. 1 anna  
 " " " exceeding Rs. 5 but not exceeding Rs. 10 2 annas  
 " " " " " 10 " " " " 15 3 annas  
 " " " " " 15 " " " " 25 4 annas  
 " " " " " 25 up to Rs. 600 ... 4 annas  
 for each complete sum of Rs. 25 and for the remainder in ratio above stated.

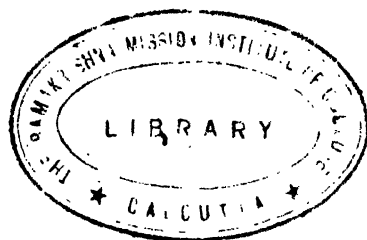
## FOREIGN POST

Postage on letters for United Kingdom and British Possessions (Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, Gibraltar, Malta, Canada, etc.), as well as Egypt and the Sudan, is  $1\frac{1}{2}$  anna for each ounce or part of that weight. For every additional ounce one anna. Post cards one anna.

Postage on letters for other countries (Germany, France, United States of America, Italy, Austria, Belgium, Holland, Sweden, etc.) is  $2\frac{1}{2}$  annas for first ounce and  $1\frac{1}{2}$  annas for every additional ounce or part of that weight.

Postage stamps sold are of following values :—

$\frac{1}{4}$ anna.	3 annas.	1 rupee.	15 rupees.
$\frac{1}{2}$ „	4 „	2 rupees.	25 „
1 „	6 „	3 „	
$1\frac{1}{2}$ „			
2 annas.	8 „	5 „	
$2\frac{1}{2}$ „	12 „	10 „	



# **JAIPUR HOTEL**

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## **JAIPUR, RAJPUTANA**

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An entirely new palatial edifice, built by His Highness the Maharaja, double storied, with marble plaster flooring and open verandahs overlooking beautiful spacious grounds, and a delightful view of the hills and Fort, situated near all places of interest and the Residency. The first class, largest and Ideal New Hotel in Jaipur, furnished with new furniture and lighted with incandescent gas.

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Excellent, well ventilated, single and double bedrooms, each with fireplace and bath and large dressing rooms. Sanitary arrangements on the most modern principle. Thorough cleanliness is kept. Particular attention is paid to the Cuisine. Carriages, Elephants, Automobiles and all kinds of conveyances ready at call.

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*No tourist should miss seeing this the most wonderful  
Rajput city in India*

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**NOWROJI JAMSETJI.**

*Managing Proprietor.*

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**This Magnificent Hotel Occupies the Finest  
and Healthiest Locality in Jaipur**

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**WELL KNOWN FOR FIRST CLASS CUISINE  
AND COMFORT**

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**UNDER EUROPEAN MANAGEMENT**

**CARRIAGES AND AGENTS MEET  
ALL TRAINS**

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**Charges Moderate**

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**COOK'S HOTEL COUPONS ACCEPTED**

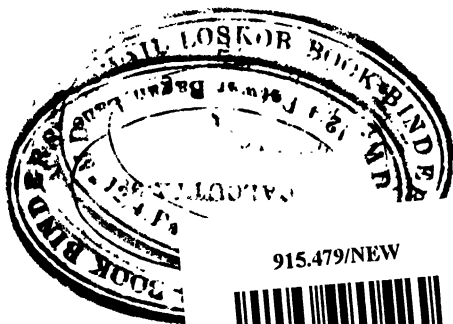
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